Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-91-142
Wednesday
24 July 1991

Daily Report
Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-91-142 *24 July 1991*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

USSR Applies for World Bank, IMF Membership *[Moscow Radio]* 1
Presidential Aide Holds Press Briefing *[TASS]* 1
Ignatenko on Soviet-Greek Talks *[TASS]* 1
Ignatenko on Bush Itinerary *[TASS]* 2
Geneva Conference on National Minorities Viewed *[TASS]* 2
Paper Examines 'Real Facts' of KAL Downing 2
Part 1 *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 16 Jul]* 2
Part 2 *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 17 Jul]* 4
Part 3 *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 18 Jul]* 6
International Seminar Debates Educational Reform *[PRAVDA 19 Jul]* 8

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Continues Visit 9
Discusses Arms Reduction With Gorbachev *[TASS]* 9
Visits Soviet Army Divisions *[TASS]* 9
Soviet Warships Visit Northern Florida *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Jul]* 9

China

Rogachev Meets Cambodia's Hun Sen in Beijing *[IZVESTIYA 22 Jul]* 10

Near East & South Asia

Iraqi Envoy Comments on 'Threat' From U.S. *[INTERFAX]* 10
Opposition Member Responds To Envoy *[INTERFAX]* 10
Pakistan Army Chief's 'Talk of War' Questioned *[Moscow International]* 11

East Europe

Commentary Says SFRY Should Serve as 'Lesson' *[Moscow TV]* 11
Report on Recruitment of Volunteers for SFRY *[Moscow International]* 13
Reemergence of Romanian Communist Party Reported *[PRAVDA 20 Jul]* 13
Payments Agreement With CSFR Signed *[PRAVDA 20 Jul]* 13
Soviet-Polish Medical Protocol Signed *[TASS]* 14

West Europe

Greek Prime Minister Continues Visit 14
Bessmertnykh on Visit *[Athens RIZOSPASTIS 23 Jul]* 14
Talks With Gorbachev *[TASS]* 14
More on Talks With Gorbachev *[PRAVDA 23 Jul]* 15
Meets Lukyanov, Pavlov, Aleksiy II *[Moscow TV]* 15
Meets Moscow Mayor *[TASS]* 16
Meets Pavlov *[TASS]* 16
Concludes Talks With Gorbachev *[PRAVDA 24 Jul]* 16
Signs Cooperation Treaty *[TASS]* 17
Treaty Outlined *[TASS]* 17
Says Visit 'Absolute Success' *[TASS]* 17

Foreign Ministry Official Discusses Cyprus *[Istanbul MILLIYET 20 Jul]* 18
Soviet Turks Picket Turkish Embassy in Moscow *[Moscow International]* 19
Yanayev Talks With Ireland's Collins *[Moscow Radio]* 19
Report on Visit *[INTERFAX]* 19
European Parliament Chairman Meets Lukyanov *[TASS]* 19
Meets Laptev *[TASS]* 20
Gorbachev Awards Frenchman Friendship Order *[Moscow Radio]* 20

Latin America & Caribbean

CPSU Greets First Sandinist Congress *[PRAVDA 19 Jul]* 20
Commentary Views Anniversary *[Moscow International]* 20
Central American Presidential Talks 'Positive' *[TASS]* 21
Iberoamerican Summit Meeting Held in Mexico *[INTERFAX]* 21
Foreign Ministry Official on Summit *[INTERFAX]* 21

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Meeting on Union Treaty Held in Novo-Ogarevo 23
Ter-Petrosyan Attends *[Moscow Radio]* 23
Gorbachev Chairs Discussion *[Radio Rossii]* 23
Experts 'Fulfilled' Mandate *[TASS]* 23
Republican Leaders Noted *[INTERFAX]* 23
Meeting Reported *[PRAVDA 24 Jul]* 23
'Two New Drafts' Discussed *[INTERFAX]* 24
'Contentious Issues' Remain *[Moscow TV]* 24
Work on Treaty Completed *[TASS]* 25
Gorbachev News Conference *[Moscow Radio]* 25
Gorbachev: 'We Arrived at Accord' *[TASS]* 27
Preparations for CPSU Plenum Reported 28
Gorbachev To Propose New Program *[AFP]* 28
Gorbachev Going 'With Great Confidence' *[Moscow Russian TV]* 29
Paper Carries Draft Program *[Moscow International]* 29
'Summary' of Draft Program *[INTERFAX]* 29
Aims of Program's Publication Viewed *[PRAVDA 24 Jul]* 30
KOMMUNIST Editor Gives Preview *[Milan L'UNITA 22 Jul]* 30
Preview by Dzasokhov *[PRAVDA 23 Jul]* 31
CPSU Issues Statement Against Yeltsin Decree *[PRAVDA 24 Jul]* 32
Army, KGB CPSU Groups Protest *[TASS]* 32
Shevardnadze Warns of 'Chaos and Civil War' *[INTERFAX]* 33
Shevardnadze Interviewed on Stepping Up Reforms *[Paris LE FIGARO 22 Jul]* 33
TASS Reviews Soviet Central Press 35

Economic

Statistics Show Slump in Economic Indicators *[Moscow International]* 36
Air Traffic Controllers Plan 10 Aug Strike 36
Causes Cited *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 17 Jul]* 36
Miners May Join Strike *[Moscow International]* 36
'Huge Losses' Foreseen *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 19 Jul]* 36
Union Official Comments *[Moscow Radio]* 37
Metallurgical Workers Report Problems in Sector 38
'Joint Action Days' Urged *[Moscow TV]* 38
Right to 'Normal' Conditions Proclaimed *[Moscow TV]* 38
Combine Chief Voices Concerns *[Moscow TV]* 39
Current Power Industry Problems Catalogued *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 18 Jul]* 39

Agriculture

Harvest Forecasts, Statistics Viewed *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 23 Jul]* 41
Grain 41
Stockraising Products 42
Poultry 42
Potatoes 42
Vegetables and Fruit 42
Sugar 42
In Addition 42
But Meanwhile 43
Agricultural Developments for 11-17 July *[Moscow Radio, etc]* 43
Speculators Take Kuban Grain From 'Your Tables' *[PRAVDA 20 Jul]* 43

Scientific

Cosmonauts Begin Extravehicular Activity *[Moscow Radio]* 45
Assemble Object Outside Mir Complex *[TASS]* 45
Work Shown, Financial Needs Noted *[Moscow TV]* 45
'Resource-F' Satellite Launched 23 July *[TASS]* 46

Military

Shlyaga, Yazov at Conference on Political Work *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 18 Jul]* 46
Yazov Agrees to Civilian Use of Airport *[INTERFAX]* 46
Reporters Visit Leningrad Submarine Scrapyard *[Moscow TV]* 46
Obituary of Retired General A.G. Dvornichenko *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 23 Jul]* 47

BALTIC REPUBLICS

Soviet Presence in Baltic Republics Defended *[PRAVDA 20 Jul]* 48
Kremlin Outlines Cost of Republics Leaving Union *[Tallinn Radio]* 48
Military Exercises in Estonia, Latvia *[Tallinn Radio]* 49

Estonia

Municipal Authorities Threaten To Join RSFSR *[BALTFAX]* 49
Foreign Ministry Views U.S. Baltics Statement *[BALTFAX]* 49
Principles Devised for Trade With USSR *[BALTFAX]* 49
Finnish Minister's News Conference Noted *[Tallinn Radio]* 50
First-Half Economic 'Sharp Slump' Reported *[BALTFAX]* 50
Militia Patrols To Start in Tallinn, Elsewhere *[Tallinn Radio]* 50

Latvia

USSR Deputy Minister on Police Recognition *[BALTFAX]* 50
Godmanis Ignorant of Pavlov Plan for Republics *[BALTFAX]* 51
Riga Stock Exchange Reopens After 50 Year Break *[Riga International]* 51

Lithuania

More on Landsbergis View on Government Reshuffle *[Radio Vilnius]* 51
Landsbergis on Continuing Soviet Army Presence *[Vilnius International]* 51
Supreme Council's 9 July Proceedings Reported *[EKHO LITVY 11 Jul]* 52
Further on Vagnorius' Call for Dual Post *[BALTFAX]* 52
Loses Vote on Cabinet Proposal *[Radio Vilnius]* 53
Vagnorius Airs Economic Issues at Vilnius Plant *[EKHO LITVY 11 Jul]* 53
Agreement With RSFSR Ready To Be Signed *[BALTFAX]* 54
Further on Upcoming RSFSR Visit *[Vilnius International]* 54

RSFSR

More Reportage on Yeltsin Departyization Decree 55
Reaction to Ruling 'Not Uniform' *[TASS]* 55
'Vesti' Notes Support *[Moscow Russian TV]* 55
Rutskoy Offers Praise *[Moscow Radio]* 55
Prokofyev Calls Decree 'Illegal' *[Moscow TV]* 56
Communist Reacts to Decree *[TASS]* 58
Ilyin Attacks Decree *[Moscow Radio]* 58
Decree Called 'Unconstitutional' *[TASS]* 58
Decree 'Contradicts' Yeltsin's Oath *[INTERFAX]* 59
CPSU Requests Opinion *[Radio Rossii]* 59
Commission Set Up To Implement Decree *[Radio Rossii]* 59
Yeltsin, Republics Agree on Tax System *[Radio Rossii]* 59
Results of Yeltsin's Kyrgyzstan Visit Viewed *[INTERFAX]* 59
IZVESTIYA Discusses Pavlov Visit *[22 Jul]* 60
Silayev Chairs Talks on Republic Economic Links *[Radio Rossii]* 60
Communists for Democracy Hold Conference *[Moscow Radio]* 60
IZVESTIYA on Dispute Over Leningrad TV *[23 Jul]* 60
Several Free Economic Zones To Be Established 62
Nakhodka Zone Discussed *[INTERFAX]* 62
Nakhodka Representative Appointed *[INTERFAX]* 62
Yakut To Establish Special Zone *[INTERFAX]* 62
Kuznetsk Zones To Be Established *[Moscow International]* 63
Soviet-French Textile Joint Venture Opens *[Moscow TV]* 63

WESTERN REPUBLICS

Ukraine

Cabinet Discusses 'Complex' Economic Situation *[TASS]* 64
Warning of Growing Deficit Cited *[Moscow TV]* 64
Minister Discusses Anticenter Forces *[Kiev International]* 64
Regional Party Seeks Kravchuk's Nomination *[INTERFAX]* 64
Group Opposes Signing Union Treaty *[Kiev Radio]* 64
Communist Party Given Official Status *[Kiev Radio]* 65
Donbass Agrees on U.S., European Joint Venture *[Moscow TV]* 65
More on discussion of Crimean Constitution *[Kiev Radio]* 65

CAUCASUS

Georgia

Gamsakhurdia on Soviet Servicemen's Actions *[INTERFAX]* 66
Gamsakhurdia Blames Military for Incidents *[INTERFAX]* 66
Gumbaridze Named Sochi Second Secretary *[Moscow TV]* 66
Appointment Denied *[Moscow TV]* 66
Leading Party Expelled From Congress of Georgia *[Tbilisi Radio]* 66
Budget Deficit Called 'Extremely Worrying' *[SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA 19 Jul]* 67
Israel's Shamir Encourages Ties With Georgia *[SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA 9 Jul]* 67
Law Stipulates Punishment for Kidnapping *[SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA 10 Jul]* 67

Armenia

Party Plenum Elects New Second Secretary *[PRAVDA 19 Jul]* 67
Defense Organs Issue Appeal Against 'Atrocities' *[Yerevan International]* 68
Officials Brief Media on Border Situation *[Yerevan International]* 68
More Reporting on 18-19 Jul Border Incursion *[ARMENPRES]* 69

Azerbaijan

'Militants' Seal Off Azerbaijan Community *[INTERFAX]* 69

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Says Game Being Played With Treaty *[Moscow Russian TV]* 70
More on Kazakh Association's Joint Venture *[Moscow TV]* 70
International Drugs Seminar Opens in Kazakhstan *[TASS]* 70

Kyrgyzstan

Party in Kyrgyzstan Formulates Program *[INTERFAX]* 70
Kyrgyz Law on Enterprises 71
Kyrgyz Enterprise, Organization Taxes Law 71

Tajikistan

Operation Against Tajik Poppy Fields Continues *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 20 Jul]* 71
Tajik Law on Denationalization *[cross-reference]* 71
Tajik Law on Local Self-Government 71
Tajik Law on Property 71

Uzbekistan

International Union Created in Uzbekistan *[TASS]* 71
Radio Liberty Correspondent Arrested in Tashkent *[Moscow Russian TV]* 72
Karimov Says Treaty Talks 'Proceeding in Circles' *[Moscow Radio]* 72

USSR Applies for World Bank, IMF Membership

LD2407090991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0830 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] We shall start with a TASS cable from Washington: The press department of the World Bank has announced that Conable, the head of the bank, has received a letter from USSR President Gorbachev making an official application for the Soviet Union to join this major international financial organization. At the same time, the USSR has made the same application to the International Monetary Fund, and a number of other international financial organizations. I remind you that the decision to grant the Soviet Union the status of an associate member of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund was adopted at the Soviet leader's meeting with Western leaders in London.

Presidential Aide Holds Press Briefing

LD2307164691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1516 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By Konstantin Voytsekhovskiy and Yuriy Rublevskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jul (TASS)—At a press conference here today Vitaliy Ignatenko, the USSR president's aide and head of his press service, said that Mikhail Gorbachev met this morning with Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, who is in the USSR on an official visit.

In conversation with the American visitor, Vitaliy Ignatenko noted, the USSR president appraised highly "the successfully developing" contacts along the military line between the two countries and "the noticeable contribution" by USSR and U.S. military leaders to the success of talks on nuclear and conventional weapons and the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations. The USSR president noted "the very positive results" at the talks on reducing strategic nuclear arms.

Vitaliy Ignatenko noted that at the meeting with Colin Powell there was discussion about the conversion of military production facilities, in the course of which Mikhail Gorbachev confirmed the USSR's readiness for cooperation with the Americans in this area, and about restructuring the Soviet and U.S. Armed Forces.

The aide to the USSR president reported that a meeting has begun in Novo-Ogarevo between the leaders of plenipotentiary delegations of the republics to complete work on the draft Union treaty. On the list of those attending are the presidents and chairmen of the supreme soviets of the Union republics. Also present are officials of the autonomous formations belonging to the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic, the Republic of Georgia, and the Republic of Azerbaijan. At the end of the meeting, Mikhail Gorbachev will talk about how the "seven plus one" meeting went in London.

Speaking on USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev's reaction to the decree of Russian President Boris Yeltsin published today on removing parties from state organs, establishments and organizations on the territory of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, Vitaliy Ignatenko stated: "In this situation, when the movement toward consensus is gaining ground in our country, it is alarming that this decree is introducing elements of tension and confrontation." Today many people are asking themselves about the legitimacy and political expediency of this decree, he added.

Touching on the subject of the forthcoming CPSU Central Committee plenum, he reported that the issues of the new CPSU program and the organization of its discussion in the party are being submitted to the plenum.

Replying to a question on the role of Soviet-U.S. cooperation in the matter of a Near East settlement, Vitaliy Ignatenko reported that a reply was received in Moscow the other day from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to an address to him from USSR President Gorbachev. He said the reply from the Syrian president assessed highly the Soviet-U.S. initiative for advancing the concept of a peace conference on the Near East and expressed agreement in taking part in it.

Ignatenko on Soviet-Greek Talks

LD2307163391 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By Konstantin Voitsekhovich and Yuriy Rublevskiy]

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—Greek Prime Minister Konstantinos Mitsotakis's visit to the Soviet Union is a remarkable event "heralding the beginning of new relations between the Soviet Union and Greece", Soviet presidential spokesman Vitaliy Ignatenko told a briefing here today.

The new quality of relations is being laid by an unprecedented friendship and cooperation treaty signed today, Ignatenko said.

The document "resting upon ancient traditions, kindly feelings between peoples of the two countries and their historic closeness, opens up a new epoch in relations between the two countries", Ignatenko said.

Ignatenko noted that rapprochement between the Soviet Union and Greece is in line with the all-European process, rests on its principles and is "an inalienable constructive element in itself for the two states' movement towards a new Europe".

In the morning today, President Mikhail Gorbachev and Mitsotakis continued talks with the participation of the two delegations, which lasted for two hours, Ignatenko said.

They discussed bilateral relations and economic interaction between the two countries and the problems of

Yugoslavia and Cyprus. Ignatenko noted that the discussion of the Yugoslav crisis was held in an "extremely benevolent and sympathetic tone".

In addition to the unprecedented treaty, the sides also signed several documents, including the agreement on preventing dangerous military activities, signed by the chiefs of general staffs, the agreement on combating drug trafficking and the agreement on cooperation in customs issues, Ignatenko said.

Ignatenko on Bush Itinerary

LD2307145191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1327 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By Konstantin Voytsekhovich and Yuriy Rublevskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jul—The possible date of U.S. President George Bush's arrival on his visit to the Soviet Union is 29 July. This was reported at a briefing today by Vitaliy Ignatenko, aide to the USSR president and head of his press service. The approximate time of arrival is 2230-2300 Moscow time, he added.

According to Vitaliy Ignatenko, preparations for George Bush's upcoming visit are underway in the USSR President's apparatus, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other interested Soviet departments. The U.S. President's advance party is already in Moscow. At the moment, the itinerary of the U.S. President's stay in the USSR is being "roughly" drafted, said the head of the press service of the Soviet head of state. Having acquainted journalists with the content of its main points, he stressed that it is, for the time being, unofficial. Vitaliy Ignatenko noted that neither the USSR President nor the U.S. President "has seen" the itinerary yet.

Ignatenko reported that during the visit, U.S. President George Bush will presumably stay at Spaso House, the U.S. ambassador's residence in Moscow. That is where U.S. President Ronald Reagan stayed during his visit to the USSR in 1988.

On 30 July there will be Soviet-U.S. talks which will end with a working breakfast, said Vitaliy Ignatenko. As to the expected subject matter of the talks, he voiced the opinion that "economic issues will hold pride of place in the talks" now, as well as regional problems, and that this will be something "fundamentally new" in Soviet-U.S. relations.

It is expected that in the afternoon George Bush will address the Soviet public, possibly at the USSR Academy of Sciences. A reception hosted by USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev in honor of the U.S. President is scheduled for 1900. The next day the U.S. President's meetings and conversations in Moscow will be continued, and then it is expected that the signing of the historic Treaty on Reduction of Strategic Offensive Weapons (START) will take place in the Vladimir Hall of the Moscow Kremlin. After the signing of the treaty, George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev are scheduled to give a final news conference at the USSR Foreign Ministry press center. The day's program will be rounded off with a reception at the U.S. Embassy.

On 1 August the U.S. President will be given a gala sendoff at the Kremlin, and he is then expected to leave for Kiev. George Bush will spend the whole day in Kiev and from there will depart for home. Vitaliy Ignatenko made it clear that the choice of Kiev for the U.S. President's trip had been made by the U.S. side. As to whether Mikhail Gorbachev will accompany George Bush on his trip to Kiev, "that is not yet known," he said.

Geneva Conference on National Minorities Viewed

LD2007095591 Moscow TASS in English 0050 GMT 20 Jul 91

[By Sergey Sedov]

[Text] Geneva July 20 TASS—A concrete and useful exchange of experience on the national minorities problem in the context of the development of cooperation and the strengthening of security in Europe has taken place for the first time in the history of the CSCE process. It is especially important now, because dramatically aggravated inter-ethnic contradictions became a serious political factor, which influences directly both the situation in individual countries and the overall stability on the continent.

This is the opinion of most delegates to the conference of experts on national minorities problems, convened within the CSCE framework, which ended here on July 19.

Klaus Jacobi, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Swiss Foreign Ministry, said at the conference that despite some sceptical remarks about "modest" results of its work, specific proposals of experts were worked out. They develop the main provisions of the document of the Copenhagen session of the CSCE human dimension conference, that deal with the protection of rights of national minorities.

According to Georgiy Tarazevich, head of the Soviet delegation and chairman of the Commission for Nationalities Policy and Inter-Ethnic Relations at the Soviet Parliament, the final document of the conference managed to bring together various viewpoints of the member countries and to confirm all constructive elements that have already been worked out on the problem of national minorities within the framework of the CSCE process.

Paper Examines 'Real Facts' of KAL Downing

Part 1

91UF0991A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jul 91 First Edition p 2

[First of three-part article by Colonel V. Dudin, USSR distinguished military navigator and candidate of military sciences, and Captain First Rank A. Kontiyevskiy,

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA editor, Department of Air Force Combat Training: "Conjectures and Facts: Once Again About the Mystery of the South Korean Boeing-747"]

[Text] *"I was serving in the air force fighter group that was guarding the air border of our country in the Far East at the time the South Korean Boeing-747 was shot down. Thus, my knowledge of this event is not secondhand. In my opinion, this story, which still attracts strong interest today, is surrounded by many rumors. Unfortunately many Soviet publications also contain imprecise information. Could KRASNAYA ZVEZDA talk about those events on the basis of facts?" [signed] Captain N. Khudenko, Far Eastern Military District.*

It is true, the world and the Soviet press still continue publishing reports related to the tragic outcome of South Korean airline flight KAL-007's Boeing-747 en route from Anchorage to Seoul on the night of 1 September 1983 and shot down in USSR airspace.

Journalists are undoubtedly attracted by the dramatic nature of the event, which presents fertile ground for various "interpretations" by the authors. We would like, however, to make an attempt first of all to analyze the real facts of this event, especially considering that due to his official position, one of the authors of this material had been a representative in the official investigation of the incident, he was in contact with the majority of those immediately involved, and was familiar with many domestic and foreign materials. This allows us to supplement, for instance, the January and May multi-part publications in IZVESTIYA with important facts that either were not presented in the newspaper, or that took place in a manner not exactly the same as (or sometimes entirely different from) the way it was presented in the serials. This correction will help develop a clearer idea of the incident.

First of all, it is necessary to note that, tragic as the incident of the South Korean Boeing-747 was, it is unfortunately not as unique as it is sometimes presented. Both before and after this incident, international aviation practice contains multiple examples of using armaments on a passenger aircraft, as a rule, when they deviate from their flight path. This includes a Libyan Boeing-727 on 21 February 1973 shot down in broad daylight over the Sinai peninsula by Israeli fighters (108 casualties); the destruction of the Iranian A-300 over the Persian Gulf by anti-aircraft missiles fired from an American destroyer (285 casualties), and so on.

The experience of investigating such complex incidents attests inexorably that in such cases one should strive to find answers to the main questions.

In this case, the main question in our view undoubtedly is this: Why did the Boeing, following the KAL-007 flight route, turn out to be at a point that was not even 500 kilometers—as the mass media casually mention—but 660 (!) kilometers away from its supposed flight path in a restricted zone of a foreign country clearly marked on international flight maps, a zone in which the decision to use arms was made and carried out?

It is an answer to this question that will show everybody—the specialists, those involved in the incident, the relatives of the victims, and in general any unprejudiced reader—what could have saved the lives of 269 people whose death is indeed absurd and brings out immense grief and compassion, especially on the part of those who have personally encountered catastrophes both at sea and in the air.

Keeping the sequence of the beginning of this extraordinary situation and its development, let us relate the argued facts related to the dynamics of this flight. Especially considering that these facts, especially the deviation from the route itself, for all practical purposes remain outside of coverage. So the Boeing deviated from its course, they say, that is all. As if a man had stumbled on the road and then resumed his walk—nothing to it. The important point is the barbarity of the Soviet pilots who attacked this aircraft.

This approach to the analysis of the incident was activated without exaggeration immediately after the tragedy and prevailed for a long time in the course of discussion of the incident on all levels—from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to the United Nations. All attention, all accusations were concentrated on the moment the plane was shot down and on the events immediately preceding it—the radar tracking of the Boeing by our anti-aircraft defenses directing fighters toward it and their actions in the air. This has been written about very actively.

All of this is secondary, however. Were this Boeing not over Sakhalin, a great distance away from its flight path, all future victims would have remained alive and all the thunder cast from podiums and newspaper pages (it was then that the expression "the evil empire" sounded especially often around the world) would not have rumbled on. By the way, the leading roles in the coverage of the events belonged unfortunately not to aviation professionals, but to politicians.

Had the professionals had an opportunity to publicly present their competent points of view, they would have convincingly shown the whole world that air transportation of passengers, especially in such quantities, especially on international routes, and especially over the sea near foreign shores, is provided, as practice attests, with a maximum guarantee of precluding this kind of situation from emerging. To ensure this inviolable demand of practice, those involved in such transportation deploy entire systems of minutely regulated and very expensive undertakings—organizational, technical, methodological, and others, that are integrated and provide a backup for each other. Among the most important of these is the precision in piloting an aircraft.

The strictest sanctions are applied to those who allow deviations from international routes to take place, not only for the 660 kilometers of this fateful deviation, but

even for one one-hundredth (0.6) km of this distance; the facts of such deviations are carefully investigated.

What follows from the investigation of this flight if we look primarily at its factual side? In reality that particular flight KAL-007 did not deviate from its correct flight path. It had not been on that correct flight path even for one minute. Immediately after takeoff, the Boeing assumed a course than differed from the prescribed path by 10 degrees. Naturally this course would not take it along the established flight path for this route, R-20 toward the Ivaki point on the eastern coast of Japan (all points along flight routes have their own names), where the aircraft was supposed to make the only turn on the flight path—to the right, toward its destination airport in Seoul. The course taken by the Boeing from Anchorage would take it to the USSR coast and then directly to Seoul, without a turn over Japan. It was this course that crossed Kamchatka, then the Sea of Okhotsk, the southern tip of Sakhalin, and then, after five and a half hours of flight, brought the Boeing to the point where it was shot down.

The actual route of the KAL-007 flight on the night of 1 September 1983 can be reconstructed precisely from the segments that are in the air traffic radar control zones, first of the United States, then the USSR, and then, on the final leg, of Japan. The two segments outside of air traffic control—in the northern part of the Pacific Ocean between Alaska and Kamchatka, and then in the center of the Sea of Okhotsk—which are outside of ground radar coverage, by navigational calculations fall with amazing precision into the general dynamics of this flight. All of this singularly confirms that the linear deviation to the right toward the USSR coast started from the first few kilometers of the flight and, while insignificant at the beginning of the flight, reached gigantic dimensions in the end—660 kilometers. (We emphasize this specific figure once again on purpose). Had this change in the prescribed flight path not taken place, there would have been no need for our air defenses to jump into action; the pilot, Lieutenant Colonel G. Osipovish, would not have to carry this heavy burden for the rest of his life; and the divers would not have had to show such heroism in their work at the site of the crash. Naturally there would not have been all sorts of conjectures, either.

This is the substance of the question, and until it is answered, any, even the most engrossing, versions will only take us further from the main point. Why did the South Korean aircraft immediately take a wrong course—a course that took it toward danger of which, let us emphasize once again, a direct warning is clearly printed on international air navigation maps of the Pacific region? Was it simply a mistake on the part of the crew? What are the capabilities of the Boeing's on-board navigational equipment, as well as those of the organs and means of keeping control over this flight? Was it possible for the crew, which in Anchorage replaced the pilots who had flown the aircraft from New York and continued the flight to Seoul without them, to avert the mistake? What is known objectively about the actions of the crew and the traffic control during these many hours that ended with an unknown aircraft, with unknown intentions and cargo, intruding deep in the middle of the night into foreign air space and then flying over the most important defense installations of the Soviet Far Eastern coast?

Only clear answers to all these questions can shed light on the main mystery, or, to be more precise, the combination of mysteries of the South Korean Boeing-747. But...(To be continued)

Part 2

91UF0999A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Jul 91 First Edition p 4

[Second of three-part article by Colonel V. Dudin, USSR distinguished military navigator and candidate of military sciences, and Captain First Rank A. Kontiyevskiy, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA editor, Department of Air Force Combat Training: "Conjectures and Facts: Once Again About the Mystery of the South Korean Boeing-747"]

[Text] It is not easy, however, to get answers to such professional questions, although they are known to a great many people. These persons, however, reside outside our borders. Among them are both the designers and manufacturers of the Boeing-747's excellent navigational equipment, and those who were in charge of getting the aircraft and the crew for the flight, and those who were on duty at American, Japanese, and South Korean air traffic control towers and radio listening posts—civilian, military, and special—and especially those who were on other aircraft and ships along the KAL-007's flight path, as well as those at various staff quarters and command posts. The list may be continued.

What do we know of the facts relating to the mystery of the KAL-007 flight along the route, which differed from the prescribed one from the moment of take-off? Let us review them without overloading the reader with all the details of specific points of flight navigation and air traffic control.

The Boeing-747 has very advanced navigation equipment, integrated into a single complex, at the heart of which are three (triple backup) LTN-72R—28 inertial systems, which are independent of each other, that compute the aircraft's current coordinates with a margin of no more than one mile. They are connected to the autopilot (two sets) and guide the aircraft along the programmed route through route checkpoints, programmed into the system in advance. At the same time, they continuously register the aircraft's current position—longitude and latitude.

The correctness of the computed location is verified with the help of on-board radar RDR-1F (two sets), which visually shows the aircraft's location in relation to ground reference points, especially shorelines and islands in flights over the sea, providing a visibility of up

to 500 kilometers at high altitudes. Another method of location verification is provided by two ADF automatic direction-finders and two sets of short-range radio navigation BOR/DME systems that make it possible to determine location in relation to ground radio stations and radio beacons. There are also long-range radio navigation receivers.

For identification and individual isolation on the screens of air traffic controllers and military radar stations, the Boeing-747 has two on-board secondary radar transmitter-receivers, as well as MK-10 and MK-12 identification equipment, which produces information on the country of origin, flight number, flight altitude, and some other data on the screens of ground radars. Such an assortment of equipment would be the envy of any heavy aircraft in the Air Force.

There are three people in the Boeing-747's crew—the captain, copilot, and flight engineer. There is no special navigator engaged exclusively in navigating the aircraft. On this particular flight, pilot Chong Byung In was the captain of the crew; he was 45 years old and had 10,627 flight hours on his record. He had been a South Korean Air Force fighter pilot for 10 years. He came to Korean Airlines (KAL) in 1972. He had been a Boeing-707 captain since 1979, and a Boeing-747 captain since February 1981. He had been flying route R-20 since 1973; this was his 84th flight along this route. The copilot, Song Tung Hwan, was two years older than the captain. The 32-year-old flight engineer Kim Yu Tong was making his first flight along this route—unfortunately, it turned out to be his last.

Route R-20 is not considered to be a difficult one for the crew from a navigational point of view, since the flight along this route stays in a continuous field of radio navigational points and radar reference points, while the route checkpoints—which are also the points at which the crew reports on passing them—are tied, in navigators' parlance, assuredly to the reference point: Checkpoint Bethel is on the territory of Alaska and is marked by two different types of radio beacons; checkpoint Nabie is located between the two American islands of St. Matthew and St. Paul; and checkpoint Neeva is between the Commodore Islands and Attu Island (Aleutian Islands). Then the aircraft enters a zone of stable radar contacts on the starboard side with the eastern shore of the Kamchatka peninsula, and then with the continuous chain of the Kuril Islands and the island of Hokkaido. In addition to these reference points both the islands and the shore contain numerous radio beacons. Elementary—not even meticulous, but at least periodic—checks make it impossible to deviate from the route.

Soon after the incident an Il-76 took off from Elizovo air field on Kamchatka. One of the authors was a member of the aircraft's crew. Its course was toward the Alaskan shore: An experiment was in progress. After approaching the shore to a distance of assured radar contact, the aircraft turned around over international waters and assumed the reverse course, toward Hokkaido, parallel to route R-20.

Two sets of radio compasses (the same way it is done on the Boeing) were tuning into the radio beacons of the above-mentioned islands; the on-board radar was on. "It is like walking along a fence," the Il-76 navigator joked at the end of the flight, meaning the abundance of reference points.

Then a second flight was performed along the actual path of the intruder aircraft, which confirmed the total impossibility of a craft not controlled by the crew approaching the Kamchatka shore, crossing it, and proceeding over the Sea of Okhotsk—not to the left, as it is supposed to be, but to the right of the Kuril Islands.

The real dynamics of the Boeing's movement during that flight seem to be as follows: After take-off in Anchorage and making a turn toward the flight path, as we have already mentioned, automatic flight was set up directly to the destination point instead of along the prescribed route. Why? Were the Seoul coordinates entered from the "corrected" board with the flight program or entered manually—this needed to be established with the help of impartial members of an impartial commission, with the participation of the designers of the navigation gear, as well as by the position of switches on the cockpit panel. However, as we were told by the chairman of the commission that investigated this incident, Aviation Marshal P. Kirsanov: The Boeing disintegrated, and our specialists were unable to establish the positions of the switches. According to him, the fate of the recordings from the so-called "black boxes" is also unknown.

Especially illogical is the fact that the crew was now failing to use the on-board radar for flight control. The most likely explanation here is that the on-board radar either broke down or was intentionally disabled directly at Anchorage, or immediately after take-off—something that the crew on its way home probably considered of little consequence, banking on the reliable working of the remaining navigational equipment. One cannot dismiss the possibility, however, that the flight was proceeding with the operational radar for some reason turned off during the flight—a possibility which, according to the documents, has not been studied either.

Finally, an extremely important question is the one concerning the navigational activities of the crew: What coordinates did the South Korean aviators see on the inertial system counters during the flight, especially when passing the checkpoints—the factual or the calculated ones? It is quite possible that tampering with the equipment by an interested person or a group of persons would have produced, at a certain command setting of the system, a sort of a "hybrid" operation: The pilots see one set of coordinates, while the aircraft follows another route.

In any case, the Boeing crew reported four times during the flight (this is registered) the passing of the checkpoints, reporting them not by their coordinates but by their code names, although at each one of these moments it was actually increasing its linear distance to the right of the prescribed flight path—about 80 kilometers from checkpoint Bethel and then about 420 kilometers from checkpoint Nippi.

Even if the crew had no intention of flying over the territory of the USSR, that is, if they themselves fell victim to some planned actions to violate our air space, it still does not reduce their degree of responsibility for such unprofessional behavior, the result of which was total lack of control over the route they were flying. For instance, there could have been more victims of such an irresponsible uncontrolled flight in a foreign night sky had the Boeing collided with one of our passenger aircraft, had it exploded—as was the case with a similar aircraft over the Atlantic after crossing the shore of Ireland in 1990—or had it fallen for some other reason on a city, armaments depot, or power engineering site. All of these things have occurred in world practice, and therefore to expect our PVO [air defense] to sit still and calmly watch the actions of an unwelcome foreign visitor is simply ludicrous. As to foreign ground control stations—or, as they are called in the West, air traffic flight services—all of them kept unanimously silent during this deviation from the flight path that lasted for hours.

Such, in general, are the circumstances of the behavior of the Boeing-747 crew on flight KAL-007, to which our Far Eastern PVO had to respond.

Here, however, it is expedient to relate one more fact that was not analyzed at all in those tense days immediately after the downing of the Boeing-747, or, for that matter, in the process of the subsequent struggle "in search of the final truth." We will let the readers judge to what extent it is related to the tragedy that took place on 1 September 1983.

Part 3

91UF1000A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 91 First Edition p 2

[Final part of three-part article by Colonel V. Dudin, USSR distinguished military navigator and candidate of military sciences, and Captain First Rank A. Kontiyevskiy, editor of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's Department of Air Force Combat Training: "Conjectures and Facts: Once Again About the Mystery of the South Korean Boeing-747"]

[Text] Let us recall 20 April 1978: A Boeing-707 of the same South Korean Airlines, on a passenger flight from Paris to Anchorage (again, Anchorage!), deviated from the prescribed route. In this case, however, it is even harder to measure how much: Instead of Alaska, it ended up on a different continent and, having flown a gigantic arc, turned up in the northwestern part of the USSR, over the Kola Peninsula. This crew, too, flew over important defense installations of the Soviet Union. Its entry into USSR territory was made exactly along the line usually followed by Soviet military aircraft returning from training flights over international waters.

The intruder was intercepted by our PVO [anti-aircraft defense] fighter-interceptor on duty, which gave all the signals designed for daylight use; it flew around the Boeing several times at a distance of 30 to 60 meters, indicating to the pilots in every way possible that they should follow it to a landing. Only when the Boeing, instead of complying with these commands, increased its speed and, while descending, turned in the direction of the Finnish border, were armaments used. The damaged Boeing-707 made an emergency landing on an ice-covered lake near the town of Kem.

One of the authors, along with other specialists, had the opportunity to familiarize himself on the spot with both the aircraft equipment and the flight documentation, as well as be present at the interrogation of the crew, which fully admitted its guilt.

At that time, we were very surprised by the crew members' unprofessional explanation for the incident. The navigator, who was a crew member on that aircraft, explained that the reason for the deviation from the course was about ten corrections to the course he had made on the basis of the sun's position and gyroscope data; the automatic pilot responded to each of these corrections by turning the aircraft 10 to 15 degrees. When the captain of the crew was asked why he had not checked on the actions of his navigator, as a result of which the sun turned out to be on the opposite side of the plane from where it was supposed to be, he said that that was the navigator's problem; his job was the take-off and landing. He also explained very simply why he had not obeyed the commands from our interceptor: He said they could not understand the signals.

It would seem that the work of the international commission to analyze the 1 September 1983 tragedy should have started by studying the measures KAL took after the first incident. This is the way unprejudiced professional investigators act when similar incidents happen in any aviation unit. In this case, however, that incident was not recalled at all, and no comparison of the situation was made. Nobody asked the really obvious question: Why were the navigational errors committed by the crews of the same airline at different times so similar? And why did the erroneous flight paths go over important defense installations of our country both times?

But let us return to the Boeing-747 for the time being. We have already told in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (see this year's 13, 14, 15, and 20 March issues) about the systematic pressure on the part of violators of our borders that had been on the rise prior to 1 September 1983. Let us only add that it is hard to tell how many technical resources, fuel, and the health of our people were spent on the "cat-and-mouse" game, when, for instance, on dozens of occasions a U.S. stratospheric

reconnaissance SR-71 plane (Blackbird) would gather speed up to 3,000 km per hour, head straight for our coast, and then, after our interceptors on duty had scrambled, would turn around along a huge ark, "brushing" the Soviet air border. Or numerous flights by RS-135s, stuffed with radar and radio listening devices, hanging at the very edge of our border for hours, occasionally approaching or withdrawing a few kilometers, and straining the nerves of command post crews.

This was the environment in which our first interceptor on duty was sent up from Kamchatka in a northeastern direction after the Boeing was detected. From the course data analysis it was concluded that the approaching aircraft was an RS-135 following its regular route.

Actions by other pilots, including Colonel G. Osipovich, by many specialists, and by the PVO command during the final part of the intruder's route are described in various publications in great detail. There is no need to repeat them or to start a discussion of the minute details. We cannot help but bring up, however, the distortions in the transcript of the radio conversations between the fighter-interceptors and the ground command posts. The media usually repeats the American version, hastily played out in the United Nations after the tragedy and then replicated all over the world. We have a copy of the real tape. It is, of course, also in the possession of those whose reconnaissance planes, ships, and satellites were in the area of Kamchatka and Sakhalin on that night, but they still use only the modified version. It should also be noted that even when using the modified version, additional confusion arises from the way it is rendered.

An example of that is an excerpt of the radio conversation transcript published in IZVESTIYA on 23 January 1991. The fragments there are presented without separating the radio conversation by the parties involved. The conversations, however, went on between Osipovich (call sign 805), who was flying the SU-15, and his ground control, call sign "Deputat"; between the MIG-23 (call sign 163) and his ground control, with the call sign "Karnaval"; and, finally, between the SU-15 and the MIG-23. Here are only some distortions of principal importance (we are not publishing the whole transcript).

IZVESTIYA: "Turn on the system."

True 805: "Should I turn off the system?"

IZVESTIYA: "163. He needs to jettison external fuel tanks."

True 163 to Karnaval: "Permission to 163 to jettison external fuel tanks?"

Then, a very important Deputat request fell out of the modified text.

Deputat: "805, can you identify the type?"

SU-15: "Unclear."

IZVESTIYA: "ANO [air navigation lights] says: Are the lights on (?!)"

True 805 reply to Deputat's question 'Are target's ANOs on?': "Yes, the ANO is on, the flasher is on."

Further on in the modified transcript of radio conversations some commands from the ground and Osipovich's reports were dropped entirely in the end.

Deputat: "805, force him to land on your airfield!"

Deputat: "805, give a warning cannon salvo!"

SU-15: "I have to approach him!"

SU-15: "Turning off (not 'on' as the publication says) intercept, will approach him!"

Deputat: "Give a cannon salvo!

"A warning salvo from cannons!"

SU-15: :"Intercept terminated; giving a cannon salvo."

Deputat: "805, have you made the shots?"

SU-15: "Yes, I have."

Deputat: "Are you observing the target?"

Now MIG-23 reports: "163, I am observing both..." (This is the report that for some reason is rendered 'Observing the fight!' The meaning of the report is completely distorted).

And only after all this did G. Osipovich use his armaments.

As we can see, the full version of the transcript of the radio conversations is evidence that the command post was demanding that the target be identified, and that it be forced to land, through the use of warning signals, including warning shots, which is what the pilot did. Everything possible was done to avoid the fateful step. It was done conscientiously, professionally, in compliance with international norms. The Boeing-747 crew, however, like the crew of its predecessor Boeing-707 in the north, did not react to these signals. In the middle of the moonless night, and a cloud cover with a high upper edge, the pilot could not see the Boeing well; neither did he see, and therefore did not report on, the main identifying feature of a passenger aircraft—its windows. The fact that he observed the "flasher" and the air navigation lights does not indicate at all that the intruder being intercepted in the middle of the night was a civilian aircraft: As is known, military aircraft have these lights as well.

None of the Far Eastern PVO officials had any information indicating that the intruder aircraft was a passenger airliner. Although they could have been informed well in advance by foreign air traffic control services, both civilian and military, that were tracking the Boeing flight

and observed first the deviation from the course, and then a complete absence of the aircraft from its prescribed course.

They could also have been informed, by the way, by Japanese officials at radar posts on the northern shore of Hokkaido Island who were listening to the radio conversation of the Soviet fighters being directed at the Boeing intercept and who were tracking the situation by radar, which is confirmed by the map published in the 17 May IZVESTIYA. They undoubtedly had the response from the Boeing's state identification system on at least one of its several channels or on a secondary radar transmitter. Knowing that this aircraft, both by schedule and by actual reports, should have been approaching Hokkaido to the east of the Kurile Islands, Japanese specialists at civilian and military posts had at least 20 minutes to figure out the real situation and tell the Boeing to obey the interceptors, as well as to report up the chain of command to Tokyo. Or, finally, they could have established contact in the Russian language on the guidance frequencies of the Soviet interceptors, as had happened many times before. None of this was done.

Some people still maintain today that the Boeing was shot down when it was already outside of our territorial waters.

"This is not true," says Aviation Marshal P. Kirsanov, referring to the protocol on the investigation. The aircraft even went down before it reached the border; the fact that the search and rescue work was conducted in our waters bears witness to that.

There is only one clear conclusion that comes to mind from everything said above: The weapons were used not on a passenger aircraft as such, but on an obvious intruder, which did not react—let us repeat this—even to an approach and circling by an interceptor, in the same way his colleague from the same airline behaved over Kola Peninsula.

As we can see, the facts show that the Soviet Union bears no blame in the bitter tragedy. Another proof of that is the decision of the recently ended appellate court in Washington. **The court found the pilots of the South Korean Boeing-747, shot down on 1 September 1983 over USSR territory, guilty of a "deliberate violation of their professional duty" that led to the death of 269 passengers. According to the data presented to the court, the pilots knew that they had entered Soviet airspace but decided to continue the flight.**

International Seminar Debates Educational Reform

PM2207155391 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jul 91 Second Edition p 4

[By A. Gay: "Where Is the Ship Bound?"]

[Text] Young skilled cadres... The future of any nation depends on giving them a strong foundation for their knowledge. That is why some leading professors from the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Finland, Sweden, the Netherlands, and elsewhere and representatives of international organizations decided to meet up and discuss key questions of higher education. The international conference cum seminar was called "The Development of Higher Education at the Present-Day Stage." It was held recently under UNESCO auspices on board a luxury motor ship that bears the name of one of the founders of revolutionary democratic education, Vissarion Belinskiy.

The meeting was sponsored by the USSR Savings Bank, the "Kontinenty" international cooperation association, the "Leningrad-Bro" joint venture, and others. The organizers included the Leningrad department of the Soviet Foundation of the University of European Peoples, the Leningrad Institute of Aviation Instrument Making, and the USSR UNESCO Commission.

The work covered three areas and was conducted in three sections: management of higher education in market conditions, humanitarianization of student training in higher education establishments, and post-diploma education and retraining of cadres.

What were the debates about? Considerable differences emerged, for instance, when the participants discussed the new draft RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] law on higher education. One section of the draft law contains an article on eliminating the ideological content of higher education and its dependence on political currents and views. The adoption of such a decision after our education had been so steeped in ideology for so many years appeared inconceivable to many experts.

There was a lively debate on the question of humanitarianizing technical education, or, as Prof. K.V. Zaychenko put it, "humanitarianizing technical progress and humanitarianizing the bulk of society, which is employed in that sphere of activity."

As for the spiritual development of the individual, the representatives of the Russian patriarchate invited to the ship—priests Fr. Gleb, Fr. Ioann, and Fr. Vladimir—talked about the moral education of students and the need to introduce optional religious education in higher educational establishments.

United States & Canada

Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Continues Visit

Discusses Arms Reduction With Gorbachev

LD2307164591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1535 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jul (TASS)—Mikhail Gorbachev today had a meeting with General Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

Soviet-U.S. contacts along military lines are developing successfully, the USSR president observed. Military leaders of both countries have made a major contribution to the success of the talks on nuclear and conventional arms, and thus to the improvement of relations between the USSR and United States. Mikhail Gorbachev emphasized the enormous importance of the START treaty that it is to be signed in a few days' time during the visit to the USSR by U.S. President George Bush. It is the result of persistent mutual efforts by both sides. The 1987 INF treaty, implementation of which will be completed in the near future, has played a role of fundamental importance in the arms reduction process. Talks are to come on enhancing strategic security and on making further cuts in strategic offensive arms. The fact that cooperation is going into effect in the field of conversion is also a significant feature in Soviet-U.S. relations.

Mikhail Gorbachev also dwelled on the restructuring of the Armed Forces in connection with the new military doctrine and in connection with the withdrawal of Soviet troops from East European countries. Steps are being taken to resolve the difficult social problems bound up with the relocation of troops.

For his part, General Powell discussed the reductions in the U.S. Armed Forces and military budget which are planned for the coming five years.

Problems of a settlement in the Near and Middle East, as well as in other areas, were touched on. The USSR president said that they can only be resolved by peaceful means.

Taking part in the conversation, which was held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and frankness, were Dmitriy Yazov, Mikhail Moiseyev, Sergey Akhromeyev, and Ambassador Jack Matlock.

Visits Soviet Army Divisions

LD2307200191 Moscow TASS in English 1851 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By diplomatic correspondents Oleg Moskovskiy and Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—The U.S. and Soviet armies have much in common, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell said today after visiting the Kantemirovskaya Tank and Taman motorised infantry divisions.

Powell is in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Defence Ministry Leadership.

Soldiers and officers from the two divisions showed their skill in using combat equipment and weapons. The U.S. military delegation familiarised themselves with living conditions of Soviet servicemen.

Powell said he had seen well trained officers and soldiers, capable of defending their motherland. He said he believed that Soviet and U.S. servicemen had something to learn from each other and time is approaching, when the Soviet and U.S. military will have contacts not only at top leadership level, but between commanders of divisions and regiments.

According to Powell, such contacts will promote understanding between the two countries' peoples. Noting particular importance of interaction in the military sphere, Powell said military equipment can perform both defensive and offensive functions.

He said it is necessary to make developing ties between the two sides promote exclusively defensive use of combat equipment.

Members of the U.S. military delegation and First Deputy Chairman of the Soviet General Staff Anatoly Kleimenov accompanied Powell.

On Wednesday, Powell will conlinue visiting military units in the Moscow Military District.

Soviet Warships Visit Northern Florida

PM2307143791 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jul 91 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Soviet Sailors in United States"]

[Text] Mayport (State of Florida), 18 Jul—Soviet sailors honored the memory of U.S. Navy servicemen who perished during World War II with a minute's silence. Paying military respects to the fallen, they laid wreaths at the maritime war memorial in the town of Jacksonville. The crews of the guided missile cruiser Marshal Ustinov, the large ASW ship Simferopol, and the tanker Dnestr continued to get to know northern Florida's sights.

A meeting took place on board the aircraft carrier Saratoga with full ceremony, between Admiral L. Edney, commander in chief, U.S. Armed Forces, Atlantic, Admiral P. Miller, commander in chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, and Admiral F. Gromov, commander of the Northern Fleet.

China

Rogachev Meets Cambodia's Hun Sen in Beijing

PM2307140391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jul 91 Union Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting in Beijing"]

[Text] Beijing, 21 July—A range of questions concerning the restoration of peace in Cambodia and the development of Soviet-Cambodian relations were the focus of attention at the meeting between USSR Deputy Foreign Minister I.A. Rogachev and Hun Sen, member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council (SNC) and chairman of the State of Cambodia Council of Ministers, who was in Beijing. The Soviet diplomat was participating in the Beijing session of representatives from the five permanent UN Security Council member states on Cambodia.

I.A. Rogachev noted the constructive contribution the State of Cambodia delegation led by Hun Sen had made to progress in the process of national reconciliation and to the adoption of important decisions at the last two SNC sessions.

Near East & South Asia

Iraqi Envoy Comments on 'Threat' From U.S.

OW2407031391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

["Diplomatic Panorama" Report: "Mr. Halib al-Tamimi: Iraq On Its Way To Democracy"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text]

Disturbances in Iraqi Kurdistan

The recent clashes in Iraqi Kurdistan, causing human victims, were inspired by Iran according to the Iraqi Embassy press-secretary in Moscow Mr. Halib al-Tamimi. In his interview with "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] he said that Teheran sent saboteurs in to the Suleimania region. It was a well-planned provocation aimed at breaking the agreement on the reconciliation of the Kurdish problem in Iraq. According to the diplomat some Kurdish leaders condemned the Iranian actions.

Mr. Halib al-Tamimi described the information about the alleged mass clashes and many victims in Iraqi Kurdistan made by UN representatives as a pure propaganda. According to him, only 8 people died, not 500.

The problem of Kurdish autonomy

The Iraqi diplomat categorically rejected the allegation that the disturbances can break the agreement on reconciliation of the Iraqi Kurds problem and the Kurdish autonomy. According to his words the Iraqi Government recognized the Kurdish autonomy in 1970. At that time under the leadership of the President Saddam Husayn the draft was worked out, which serves as a base for the present reconciliation.

General Amnesty in Iraq

Answering the question about the Iraqi motives for announcing political amnesty, Mr. Halib al-Tamimi said that this measure is directed towards consolidation of the Iraqi society. Besides, he went on, there was another aim to deprive the West of any reasons for interfering with Iraqi internal affairs. According to him, the new draft of the Iraqi constitution providing for democracy, a multi-party system and political pluralism was developed even before the Gulf War. The war prevented these reforms from being realised. But now it is time for them to be fulfilled.

The diplomat found it difficult to clear up the number of Iraqis covered by the amnesty because there is no exact data. According to him the amnesty does not cover army officers as they have their own law. What is excusable for a soldier cannot be regarded as excusable for an officer. He also said that there were not that many imprisoned officers in Iraq.

More cautious attitude towards Washington

According to Mr. Halib al-Tamimi, the United States and its allies used the disturbances in Kurdistan to discredit Iraq in the eyes of the world community; to convince everybody that the Iraqi Army is opposed to the people. The diplomat supposed that something "is under way" against Iraq. "We take it as a continuation of the plot"—he said.

Answering the question about Baghdad's attitude towards a possible U.S. attack on Iraqi nuclear objects, Mr. Halib al-Tamimi said that some Iraqi leaders consider that threat quite real. According to him the Iraqi nuclear program is no more than an excuse. The real reason is that the Gulf War did not fulfill U.S. aims. Those aims include the overthrow of the Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, changing the country's political system and the all-out destruction of the country's internal structures.

Opposition Member Responds To Envoy

OW2407033491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

["Diplomatic Panorama report: "Member of the Iraqi Opposition Committee in the USSR: That's All Saddam Husayn's Tricks, He Can't be Trusted"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text]

Disturbances in Iraqi Kurdistan

There's no evidence that disturbances in Iraqi Kurdistan have been provoked by Iran, says a member of the Iraqi opposition committee in the USSR. In an interview with

the "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] he pointed out that clashes in Suleimania continue the repressive policy pursued by the Iraqi authorities against the Kurds and the entire Iraqi nation. Baghdad calls the Kurds "a fifth column" and proceeds from that false premise.

A member of the Iraqi opposition also noted that the clashes in Kurdistan coincided (July 17) with the latest anniversary of the Ba'ath Party coming to power in Baghdad. That is no mere chance, in his opinion, but a protest against the rule of Saddam Husayn.

The question of Kurdish autonomy

The member of the Iraqi opposition committee in the USSR has described the agreement on granting autonomy to the Kurds as just another trick and an illusion. "No autonomy is possible," he said," in a country without democracy. Saddam Husayn is not to be trusted." He says that "a law is a scrap of paper that I write". The opposition member sees the clashes in Iraqi Kurdistan as more evidence that no compromise is possible with Saddam Husayn's regime.

A general amnesty in Iraq

The member of the Iraqi opposition committee in the USSR has named two reasons that caused Baghdad to declare general amnesty. In his opinion, the amnesty is meant to whitewash the regime's facade, to break through the isolation inside the country and on the international scene, including in the Arab world. Besides, July 25 is the deadline set by the United Nations for Iraq to produce full information on its nuclear capabilities. The world community has well-grounded doubts concerning Iraq's sincerity on this issue. The amnesty, that is false democratization, is used to dispel, or at least to alleviate those doubts.

Comment on Washington's warnings

From the words of our interviewee, the Iraqi opposition is against the United States bombing Iraq's nuclear facilities. This position is based on fear that such strikes would hurt common people in the first place, while Saddam Husaun and his men sit them out in their underground bunker, as usual.

Pakistan Army Chief's 'Talk of War' Questioned

BK2307160891 Moscow Radio Moscow in Hindi 1300 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By Vasant Georgiyev]

[Text] Lieutenant General Mirza Aslam Beg, Pakistan's chief of army staff, who is due to retire, inspected Pakistani troop deployments in Kashmir and Punjab areas along the Indian border. As dictated by tradition, the visiting general addressed the troops. He said the shadows of war have started appearing on the horizon and appealed to the troops to be ready to face India. Why this talk of war so suddenly?

Obviously, General Aslam Beg expressed views of Pakistan's top military echelon who are aversed to Indian Government's efforts to establish order in Jammu and Kashmir. Recently, Narasima Rao Government took fresh initiatives with a view to normalize the situation in the state. It expressed its readiness to have direct talks with Kashmir's Muslim secessionist parties. It is no secret that the Kashmir extremists are backed by the Pakistan intelligence agencies. Indian leaders have many times produced concrete evidence in this connection. Officials in Delhi consider the Pakistan's interference in India's internal affairs as the main obstacle in the path of normalization of India-Pakistan relations. Soon after assuming power, Narasimha Rao Government expressed willingness for normalization and repeated the offer several times. Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif too reciprocated the sentiments. On his return from the Male Summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, he expressed the desire to normalize India-Pakistan relations. This leads to the conclusion that leaders in both and India and Pakistan are seeking ways to strengthen good neighborliness in the Indian subcontinent. Pakistani generals are, perhaps, extremely repulsive to this sight. General Aslam Beg's saber rattling reflects this.

East Europe

Commentary Says SFRY Should Serve as 'Lesson'

LD2307210291 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1630 GMT 23 Jul 91

["Topical Reportage" by the "Absolyut" Independent Creative Association: "About Events in Yugoslavia"]

[Text] The attention of the whole world is now fixed on Yugoslavia, where the events which have led to death and destruction have caused many people to talk about the possibility of civil war and the disintegration of a country friendly to us. The clips which you are now seeing were taken in various places in Slovenia at the very height of the internecine hostility.

What brought Yugoslavia to its present state? The crisis in the country has deep internal roots. To a large extent it can be explained by the fact that in conditions of the prolonged, bitter political struggle against the center, the republics achieved a considerable expansion of their powers which, unfortunately, led to a growth in national egoism and separatism in the richest republics, Slovenia and Croatia, and to a weakening of the influence and viability of the federal authorities.

The movement of these two republics toward independence began with republican laws and constitutions being placed above those of the state as a whole. Separatist parties came to power. There was a unilateral cessation of fulfilling obligations to the center. A policy of drawing closer to the West was proclaimed.

Today we already know the results of going along this path: political impasse, conflict within the state, the threat of destabilizing the international situation. The solemn melody of the orchestra has been replaced by the sounds of the air-raid warning sirens. Real combat operations broke out between Slovenia's territorial forces and the units of the Yugoslav Army which were given the order to take control of the borders and customs posts. There were dead, wounded, and captured.

Another aspect which had its effect was the fact that the separatists made active use of massive propaganda and baseless assertions that if Slovenia and Croatia seceded from Yugoslavia they would soon secure Western European standards of living for their citizens. Forces that had adopted a policy of destroying the state saw that the economic inexpediency of the disintegration of Yugoslavia could become a serious argument against the implementation of their plans. In this connection use was made of such means as the economic links. The allocation of $5 billion of credit to Belgrade was halted. Naturally, this step put the Yugoslav central authorities in a very difficult situation.

It must be said that the bitterness and scale of the crisis in Yugoslavia were also influenced by external factors. The inflammatory policy of certain foreign circles, including some in neighboring countries which have an interest in the disintegration of Yugoslavia and which are striving to speed up the transformation of the country into a pluralist market society free from its communist past, promoted the further exacerbation of the conflict between the republics and the center.

While supporting in words the preservation of the unity of the country, these forces moved matters toward the dismemberment of Yugoslavia, counting on consolidating their positions in the region and even on achieving territorial acquisitions. This spring a noisy scandal broke out in connection with the discovery of supplies of Hungarian weapons to Croatia. The Yugoslav authorities sent official representations to the Austrian Government, which had been encouraging separatist tendencies in Slovenia. A number of Italian politicians made claims to a part of Yugoslavia's Adriatic coast. Hungary is raising the question of the Hungarians in the Vojevodina. In Albania some people are not concealing their interests in Kosovo. Old quarrels about the Macedonian question have become exacerbated between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

And so, yet another hotbed of tension has been created in Europe. The excessively hasty implementation of the right to self- determination accompanied by an explosion of emotions gave rise to a new wave of nationalism which puts in doubt the integrity of the state.

Aware that the disintegration of Yugoslavia which is sought by the separatists could give rise to a whole series of conflicts both in the Balkans and beyond, the international community was forced to actively intervene in the settlement of the crisis. The USSR did not stand aside, either. The statement of the USSR Foreign Ministry pointed out that any international efforts on an individual or collective basis should be subordinated to the preservation of the integrity and independence of Yugoslavia and should help to ensure, by democratic and peaceful means, a reliable future for this state.

A representative of the USSR president went to Yugoslvia to participate in the quest for ways to settle the conflict. He held a series of meetings and talks with the leadership of the country and of a number of republics. USSR Foreign Minister Bessmertnykh sent a message about the situation in Yugoslavia to the foreign ministers of a whole range of countries. The joint efforts temporarily succeeded in taking the heat out of the crisis. However, the danger of a new exacerbation unfortunately still remains.

Although the union troops have returned to the barracks, the separatists are not giving up their efforts to once again complicate the situation.

They evidently calculate that armed clashes with the Yugoslav Army will increase the number of supporters of independence outside the country. The Army is being subjected to massive criticism in the republican and foreign mass media. It is being accused of attempting to carry out a communist coup, of not observing the Brioni accords, and of cruelty.

But in reality everything looks rather different. The Slovenian armed detachments have not lifted their blockades of the military townlets of the Yugoslav People's Army in the republic. The movements of army servicemen and the members of their families are being restricted. Difficulties are being created in supplying the personnel with foodstuffs and in providing medical assistance to them. Appeals are made to servicemen to desert from the Yugoslav People's Army. Young men who are loyal to their oath are threatened with punishment for serving in an army of occupation.

It is to be hoped that the plans for the disintegration of Yugoslavia are not destined to be realized, for the example of this country could give renewed strength to the separatists in other countries, including Western ones, where interethnic problems also exist. Thus, Belgium has problems with relations between Flemings and Walloons; Spain has the problem of the Basques. There is no reduction in the intensity of passions on French Corsica. Great Britain's attempts to resolve the conflict in Ulster remain unsuccessful.

The hopes of creating a European system of collective security in the foreseeable future have been placed in doubt—a system which is based on the principle of territorial integrity of the state, as proclaimed by the Paris charter for a new Europe.

The world is faced with a choice: to permit a vast redivision of Europe, which is fraught with unpredictable and certainly bloody conflicts which could roll like

a snowball across the continent; or else, in the interests of the European peoples, to begin a peaceful settlement of all interethnic and inter-state problems proceeding from the inviolability of existing borders. May the blood already spilt in Yugoslavia serve as a lesson to those who incautiously attempt to achieve on the wave of nationalism and separatism the implementation of their own egotistical aims.

Report on Recruitment of Volunteers for SFRY

LD2407022591 Moscow Radio Moscow in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Commentary by Victor Ponomaryev]

[Excerpts] Good evening, dear listeners. In the last issue of the Moscow weeky MOSCOVSKIYE NOVOSTI I came across the following brief notice: Retired captain of the Soviet Army, Vladimir Filatovski, is recruiting, at the main square in Kiev, volunteers who are prepared to defend, with weapons in hands, the independence of Slovenia and Croatia.

During the first three days, about 50 people responded. So, in the center of the capital of the Ukraine, an unofficial recruiting point has been operating for several days. As we can see, there are results: several tens of volunteers.

There have been examples in history when volunteers went to the Balkans to give their lives for a common goal, freedom and independence of their brothers, the South Slavs, oppressed by the Turks. People will always remember the names of the Ukrainians, Russians and Belorussians who followed the paths of the partisans during World War II, shoulder to shoulder with the fighters of the National Liberation Army of Yugoslavia. They had different aims from the present volunteers. They fought on Yugoslav territory for peace.

Today, when the whole world is trying to end the bloodshed in Yugoslavia, the participation of armed volunteers from different countries will not contribute to the normalization of the situation. On the contrary, it will only encourage further development of the conflict.

What is making Soviet young men volunteer? They wish to sacrifice their lives for the freedom and independence of Slovenia and Croatia? This is a noble wish, but I doubt that the boys who signed the recruitment documents of the retired captain, Filatovski, are familiar with the present Yugoslav situation.

They wish to oppose, according to them, the totalitarian regime? But why to go so far away, when there is a lot of work to do at home? [passage omitted]

The internationalization of the Yugoslav problem has already begun. The examples are the German instructors who trained the members of the Slovene Territorial Defense to handle antitank missiles. The Kurds, the Moroccans, the Libyans, the Albanians, and the Slovaks who were shooting at Yugoslav People's Army units. Will the Russians and the Ukrainians join these volunteers? We must acknowledge that the Slovene and Croatian governments have not supported the initiative of Filatovski. But he has not lost hope that he will get the support in the end. [passage omitted: Filatovski told MOSCOVSKIYE NOVOSTI that he hopes that the volunteers will soon leave for Yugoslavia]

Reemergence of Romanian Communist Party Reported

PM2307162591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jul 91 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "They Intend To Emerge From Underground"]

[Text] Bucharest, 19 Jul—The events of December 1989, when the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party deserted, led to the temporary disorganization of the Romanian Communist Party. There then followed a period of uncertainty, which is now over.

This is said in an official report by the committee for the reorganization of the Romanian Communist Party, published yesterday in the newspaper COTIDIANUL. This committee, the document stresses, is assuming responsibility for the revival and temporary coordination of the party's activity until the first national conference of the Romanian Communist Party, which will be held in September of this year.

The activity of the Romanian Communist Party, the document goes on to say, will be carried out in direct accordance with the principles of a rule-of-law state, and the very existence of the party will be a guarantor of the consolidation of democratic processes in Romania.

A short commentary that the newspaper placed alongside this article says that talk that the Communists intend to emerge from underground has finally come true. According to information from reliable sources, it notes, Communist groups and cells are being created in many cities in the country.

Payments Agreement With CSFR Signed

PM2307094391 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jul 91 Second Edition p 5

[PRAVDA-TASS report: "USSR-CSFR"]

[Text] 19 Jul—A protocol to the bilateral Soviet-Czechoslovak payments agreement was signed in Prague yesterday by J. Brabec, CSFR first deputy federal foreign trade minister, and B. Pankin, Soviet ambassador to Czechoslovakia. This document opens up the possibility of using national currencies in reciprocal trade turnover. In J. Brabec's opinion, it will promote the extensive development of barter trade between the two countries. The goods are already in place, he said. We need only wait for the signing of the corresponding interbank agreement.

Soviet-Polish Medical Protocol Signed

LD2207212691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1350 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Excerpts] Warsaw, 22 Jul (TASS)—The signing of a Soviet-Polish protocol on cooperation in the sphere of health care and medical sciences for 1991-92 took place in Warsaw today. The document was signed by I.N. Denisov, USSR minster of health; and J. Sidorowicz, minister of health and social welfare of the Republic of Poland. [passage omitted: partly garbled list of topics covered]

The visit to Poland by the delegation from the USSR Ministry of Health provides for meetings with representatives of major firms and joint stock companies engaged in the production and supply to the Soviet Union of medicines and medical equipment, and a visit to a surgical clinic.

West Europe

Greek Prime Minister Continues Visit

Bessmertnykh on Visit

NC2307173891 Athens RIZOSPASTIS in Greek 23 Jul 91 p 5

[Report by Yiannis Litsos]

[Text] A few minutes before the plane carrying Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis and the members of the Greek delegation landed at Vnukovo Airport in Moscow, RIZOSPASTIS had the opportunity to conduct an exclusive interview with Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh on Soviet-Greek relations and the issues to be discussed at the Greek-Soviet talks:

[Litsos] What does the Soviet side expect from the Greek-Soviet summit opening in Moscow today?

[Bessmertnykh] The summit is of exceptional significance for the development of Greek-Soviet relations. Contacts between the two countries have been strengthened recently, and we hope the Greek prime minister's visit will give further impetus to this process.

During my recent visit to Greece, I said that our government was impatiently awaiting this visit, which we warmly welcome. The current state of our relations demands that we intensify our contacts. There are many issues that are of interest to the two countries and, more important, there is also the question of bilateral relations. We must acknowledge that there considerable scope for improvement, especially in the commercial field.

On political issues, there are many points of understanding beween the Soviet Union and Greece. The talks will deal with the European situation, events in Yugoslavia, and, naturally, internal developments in our country and Greece. We will also discuss more general European questions, especially the Balkans, which are again at the center of attention in view of the dramatic developments in Yugoslavia. It is essential that we exchange views on the solutions that are being proposed for the area.

[Litsos] It has been announced that the Cyprus problem is also on the agenda. What are your views on the subject?

[Bessmertnykh] We are ready to discuss the Cyprus problem and fully understand that the Greek side has a special interest in this issue. As you know, our positions on this issue coincide to a great extent. It is very important to us that we exchange views on how the issue should be addressed so that a comprehensive solution can be found. The Cyprus problem will be one of the main topics at the talks.

[Litsos] President Gorbachev has just returned from London where he met with the leaders of the "Group of Seven." What role can small states, like Greece, play in developing cooperation between the Soviet Union and the West?

[Bessmertnykh] The programs we presented at the London meeting concern not only those seven countries, but call for cooperation among all states. We would like any country that wishes to participate in them to do so. Thus small states as well as large can participate in these programs. In this respect, I would again like to stress that there is a great deal of unexploited potential in Greek-Soviet relations and that relations between the two countries, which are linked by ties of friendship and goodneighborliness, have not attained the desired level.

In conclusion, Bessmertnykh said with a smile: "Although the plane has not yet landed, I am certain that the visit will be useful."

Talks With Gorbachev

LD2307104191 Moscow TASS in English 0902 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—After meeting Russian Orthodox Church leader in St. Daniel's Cathedral in Moscow today, Greek Prime Minister Constantinos Mitsotakis met Soviet parliament Chairman Anatoliy Lukyanov in the Kremlin.

Mitsotakis also placed a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier near the Kremlin wall.

At 11:00, the Greek and Soviet delegations led by Mitsotakis and President Mikhail Gorbachev began talks in Grand Kremlin Palace.

The sides are expected to discuss bilateral cooperation and international issues, including the European process and the situation in the Balkans.

Mitsotakis's visit will be capped by the signing of a Soviet-Greek treaty on friendship and cooperation.

More on Talks With Gorbachev

PM2307151591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 91 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "USSR-Greece: New Quality of Dialogue": "Soviet-Greek Summit Meeting"]

[Text] On 22 July, USSR President M.S. Gorbachev met with Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis. This was a meeting of statesmen representing countries between which there are ancient, stable, and good relations which are rich in their history and the spiritual kinship of their peoples.

The meeting was held at a time when much in the world is being resolved for a long time to come and in a fundamental way, when profound changes bear within them both a tremendous opportunity for progress and peace, and dangers which lay bare the contradictions and problems which accumulated long ago but which had no means of emerging in the atmosphere of the past.

Characterizing the specific nature of the period, M.S. Gorbachev said that just as the Stalinist socioeconomic model had suffered historic defeat in the Soviet Union, so the model oriented toward force, confrontation, and the arms race has been defeated in international relations. The realization of the integrated nature of civilization and the interdependence of states and peoples in the face of new global problems has enabled world politics to achieve great gains in a short period—in the sphere of disarmament, in the European process which was marked by the Paris Charter, and in overcoming a number of regional crises.

It has been proven that it is possible to act according to the new criteria. An unprecedented political dialogue has been started which has already come through some very difficult trials, especially the Persian Gulf war. And recently in London a start was made on a new type of economic cooperation as a basis for the new world policy.

Opportunities for strengthening the positive trends exist but special attention must be paid to the threats in their way, especially since the new institutions capable of effectively ensuring common security have not been formed yet. We have moved away from one system of values which underpinned confrontation, the arms balance, and the arms race, but another effective system has not been found yet. That is why it is particularly important now not to lapse into the old methods, to think in terms of cooperation, not force, to be guided toward a policy of the balance of interests and find the best solutions through it alone. At the moment, however, M.S. Gorbachev said, there is a delay in the creation of new mechanisms which would protect the all-European process and would work in the interests of all Europe, not just a part of it. Then it will be easier to regulate and sort out individual contradictions, however serious they may be.

The Soviet Union's emergence from crisis will enable our great country to make a great contribution to building the new Europe, to the system of pan-European security, to forming an economic space in line with generally acknowledged rules, to creating a single energy and ecological space, and to asserting a rule-of-law and cultural space. We resolutely oppose the ideologization of policy but support the recognition and respect of characteristics, traditions, and the way of life of each state and people.

M.S. Gorbachev and K. Mitsotakis shared their ideas on how to promote Soviet-Greek cooperation in the international and domestic atmosphere and how to give content to the new stage of relations which is being opened by the unprecedented Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and Greece.

K. Mitsotakis placed special emphasis emphasis here on opportunities in the sphere of the power industry, shipping, culture, and also, the President added, in the food sphere.

M.S. Gorbachev and K. Mitsotakis discussed the situation in the eastern Mediterranean and the Balkans and the Cyprus problem. A comparison of their opinions enabled them to draw a conclusion on the possibility of settling the chronic Cyprus problem in the very near future.

The sides raised the question of Soviet Greeks, new forms of their sociopolitical activity, the realization by them of their cultural and spiritual needs, and the creation of the necessary conditions for this.

K. Mitsotakis asked for an assessment of the situation in the USSR at the present moment. The president gave an analysis of current events and his forecast with the utmost frankness: It is complex and difficult but decisions must be adopted and a way out of the crisis of the system is visible.

The conversation, which lasted a full hour longer than planned by protocol, was held in an atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding—the two leaders have known each other a long time and each is well acquainted with the problems and concerns of the other. In short, they stated that a new level of relations has been achieved.

Meets Lukyanov, Pavlov, Aleksiy II

LD2307170191 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Network in Russian 1530 GMT 22 Jul 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A meeting was held today between Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and Greek Prime Minister Mitsotakis. Their conversation touched upon the most important aspects of Soviet-Greek relations, including the positive experience of parliamentary

exchanges between the USSR and Greece. [video shows Lukyanov, Mitsotakis and their colleagues in conversation around a table]

Also today, a friendly meeting was held between USSR Prime Minister Pavlov and Greek Prime Minister Mitsotakis. [video shows Pavlov at a table introducing his colleagues]

Later today, the head of the Greek Government met with Patriarch Aleksiy II of Moscow and All Russian, the head of the Russian Orthodox Church. The meeting was held at St. Daniel monastery. [video shows Aleksiy II and Mitsotakis at a table]

Meets Moscow Mayor

LD2307210491 Moscow TASS in English 2041 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By diplomatic correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—"My visit to the Soviet Union is aimed to establish closer ties with Soviet Greeks. My meeting with Gavriil Popov was not accidental, as the Moscow mayor heads the All-Union Society of Soviet Greeks," Greek Prime Minister Konstantinos Mitsotakis told a briefing at the Moscow Council today after his meeting with Popov.

The Greek premier noted that positive changes in the Soviet Union creates a good basis for more active contacts between Soviet Greeks and their compatriots, which are expected to promote and improve state relations between the two countries.

On behalf of Soviet Greeks, Popov thanked Mitsotakis for attention to his compatriots in the Soviet Union. He accepted the prime minister's invitation to visit Greece with gratitude.

Meets Pavlov

LD2307210191 Moscow TASS in English 2033 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—Soviet Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov today met visiting Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis.

The prime ministers stated that the signing of the Soviet-Greek friendship and cooperation treaty makes a good basis for intensive development of mutually advantageous and versatile bilateral cooperation. Other agreements signed during the visit will also serve these ends.

While discussing trade and economic cooperation and prospects for the future, including long-term cooperation, the prime ministers spoke about implementing some investment projects currently discussed and measures to create favorable conditions for developing cooperation.

Mitsotakis said he was sure that the Soviet Union, switching to the market, will be able to move its economy out of crisis and occupy a deserved place in the system of international economic relations.

Mitsotakis noted that Greek business circles are interested in establishing broader and closer ties with soviet organizations and gradual involvement in the Soviet market.

Mitsotakis said his government will help complete talks on building a gas main and an alumina plant in Greece with Soviet participation.

They also discussed cooperation between small and medium-size enterprises in the two countries and Greek businessmen's participation in their creation in the Soviet Union.

Concludes Talks With Gorbachev

CM2407110791 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul Second Edition pp 1, 4

TASS Report: "Completion of Talks"

[Text]—The talks between USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and the Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis were continued and concluded in the Kremlin today. This time they took place in expanded form. As on the first day the talk exceeded the framework of the time allotted—there were more than enought topics of interest to both sides.

The USSR and Greek foreign Ministers reported on the results of their discussions yesterday. A broad range of problems was broached at the talks, relating above all to the prospects for ensuring security and cooperation in the Balkans and in the Mediterranean as a whole. As a result, it was established that there was either full coincidence or a great proximity of stances on the main issues. It was agreed that the dialogue would be continued and intensified.

The ministers of both countries who discussed economic problems, reported on the results of their discussions. They were significant. A search is under way for new, more effective forms of cooperation. It is planned to found a Soviet-Greek Chamber of Commerce, to promote the joint establishment of industrial development zones in the USSR and the implementation of major projects, in particular in the sphere of power engineering (in relation to the plans for all-European power engineering cooperation). Discussions on these topics will be continued.

Summing up, Mikhail Gorbachev and Konstandinos Mitsotakis noted that this meeting lays a firm foundation for the further development of relations between the countries, putting them on a fundamentally new level. The meeting, noted the Soviet leader, was one of great scope. The pooling of the two states' efforts can produce significant results, both in politics and in the economy. The main thing is not to delay in getting down to implementing all that has been agreed.

Mitsotakis confirmed the invitation made previously by the Greek President to Mikhail Gorbachev to visit Greece. The USSR President has accepted this invitation with satisfaction.

The following took part in the concluding talks: on the Greek side—A. Samaras, S. Dhimos, A. Pavlidhis, M. Theodorakis, D. Bakoyiannis, I. Verivakis, V.Tsoudherou, K. Limberopoulos, I. Gounaris, and K. Pilarinos; on the Soviet side—A.A. Bessmertnykh, V.I. Shcherbakov, K.F. Katushev, A.N. Semenov, M.A. Moiseyev, V.V. Zagladin, V.N. Ignatenko, A.A. Slyusar, and M.Yu Senkevich

Signs Cooperation Treaty

LD2307125191 Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—The signing of a package of joint documents capped Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis's official visit to Moscow today.

Mitsotakis and Gorbachev signed a treaty on cooperation and friendship, designed to promote bilateral cooperation and to serve as another element in the architecture of a common European home, in which suspicion and confrontation give way to trust and mutual understanding.

The treaty can be compared with similar accords the Soviet Union signed with Italy, Spain, France and West Germany.

The sides also signed three inter-government agreements in the Kremlin—the agreement to avert dangerous military activity, on cooperation in combating drug trafficking, and cooperation of customs services.

Mitsotakis is expected to meet Soviet Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov today, as well as Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov.

In the afternoon, Mitsotakis will hold a press conference.

Treaty Outlined

LD2407002991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1732 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow, 23 July (TASS)—The USSR and Greece have reaffirmed their resolve to "actively and consistently develop relations of trust and cooperation in all areas on the basis of the principles of respect for political independence, sovereign equality and territorial integrity, noninterference in internal affairs and mutual advantage". This is stated in the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, signed in Moscow today by USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and Greek President Konstandinos Mitsotakis.

The sides consider each other's frontiers, just as the frontiers of all states in Europe, as inviolable. They confirm that the principle of nonaggression is the foundation of relations between them and all other states. They will spare no effort to prevent any armed conflict and they will actively facilitate the process of disarmament both in the nuclear and conventional spheres.

The USSR and Greece stated that they regard the further development, strengthening and institutionalization of the all-European process as being of foremost importance. They are of the view that multilateral cooperation in the Balkans corresponds with the interests of strengthening mutual understanding, trust and security in this region of Europe and that it represents a contribution to the strengthening of peace and stability on the European continent.

In accordance with the treaty, the Soviet Union and the Republic of Greece will develop and expand the mutually advantageous economic, scientific and technical cooperation and will ensure the necessary legal, economic, financial and commercial conditions for close business cooperation.

The USSR and Greece are for the stepping up of joint efforts in environmental protection and in the cause of combating natural disasters on the international, regional and subregional levels. They will devote special attention to multilateral cooperation in the area of environmental protection in the Mediterranean and Black Seas and to the maintenance of ecological balance in the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions.

The competent bodies of both countries will cooperate on bilateral and multilateral basis in the cause of combating organized crime, terrorism, illegal acts of interference in the operations of civil aviation and maritime transport, illegal drugs trade, contraband, including illegal cross-border movement of art.

The USSR and the Republic of Greece have also agreed, where possible, to take measures to simplify the visa formalities and improve the consular service for the citizens of both countries on a reciprocal basis. They have pledged to develop regular contacts between representatives of their armed forces and also to hold meetings to discuss questions of mutual interest in order to develop mutual understanding and to strengthen mutual trust.

Says Visit 'Absolute Success'

LD2307191591 Moscow TASS in English 1752 GMT 21 Jul 91

[By diplomatic correspondents Konstantin Voitsekhovich and Sergey Petukhov]

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—The official visit to the Soviet Union was an absolute success and it "opens a new era in Greek-Soviet relations", Greek Prime Minister Konstantinos Mitsotakis told a news conference here today.

Talks with President Mikhail Gorbachev have shown similarity of the sides' positions on a broad range of issues, Mitsotakis said.

Mitsotakis said the sides had discussed the situation in the Balkans, Greek-Turkish relations, the Cyprus issue, the situation in Yugoslavia, the development of the all-European process, security on the continent, Soviet-U.S. and bilateral relations.

The prime minister said the Soviet-Greek friendship and cooperation treaty has a "fundamental and significant character". He noted that the treaty will be a "basis for a new period of friendly relations" between the two countries.

Mitsotakis said that during the visit, the sides also discussed all range of Soviet-Greek economic relations and prospects for their development. He said the Soviet side welcomed the fact that a large group of Greek businessmen interested in establishing contacts with the Soviet Union, accompanied the prime minister.

Foreign Ministry Official Discusses Cyprus

NC2307182391 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 20 Jul 91 p 15

[Interview with Aleksey Anatoliyevich Popov, director of the Greece and Cyprus desk at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Cenk Baslamis in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] Moscow—[Baslamis] The Soviet Union appears to be taking a more restrained approach on the Cyprus problem. Is this accurate?

[Popov] Although we do have domestic problems, we remain very interested in international issues, including regional ones. You may be right in what you say about the Cyprus problem. We have not made many public statements on the question recently. Nevertheless, we continue to take up the problem in our bilateral and multilateral contacts.

[Baslamis] There is a great deal of activity surrounding the Cyprus problem, but Moscow is not prominently involved. Has the Soviet Union lost interest in the problem?

[Popov] First let me say that I expect progress to be made on the Cyprus problem before Javier Perez de Cuellar's term as UN secretary general expires. The recent activity here encourages optimisim. I have tried to explain our approach. There are many ways to conduct diplomacy.

As for our interest in the matter, we are closely following the proposals we put forward in 1974 are now being realized.

[Baslamis] What do you mean?

[Popov] We proposed that an international conference on Cyprus be convened. We recognize that the countries directly concerned have differences over the form of the conference, but the general idea stands a chance. Several aspects of the Cyprus problem have to be resolved at some form of international conference. The countries concerned must determine the form through their contacts.

[Baslamis] Do you regard the proposed quadripartite summit as an international conference?

[Popov] The Soviet Union's proposal envisaged a wider framework, but, as I said before, the parties involved must address this issue and eliminate their differences. This is probably what the UN secretary general meant when he said that there must be adequate preparations for a conference.

[Baslamis] What is your general view on the call for a quadripartite summit?

[Popov] We were interested in the proposal to convene an international conference. The Greek and the Greek Cypriot side also made a similar proposal, but, of course, it was a slightly different. The president of the UN Security Council has announced support for the idea of an international conference, and naturally the Soviet representative on the Council participated in formulating this view.

[Baslamis] To sum up, do you then support the convening of a quadripartite summit on the condition that the substance of the Cyprus problem is addressed?

[Popov] We believe that the support for the idea of an international conference by the Greek and Greek Cypriot side and by the Turkish and Turkish Cypriot side is encouraging.

[Baslamis] What do you think is impeding a settlement?

[Popov] The parties directly concerned—that is the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots—probably know what is prolonging the Cyprus problem better than anyone. I can mention one obstacle, and that is the separation and absence of contacts between the two communities.

If the two communities were to take the necessary steps toward one another, they would help create a more favorable atmosphere for a solution.

[Baslamis] Do you regard Rauf Denktas, president of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, as one of these obstacles?

[Popov] As long as the two sides continue to seek a solution, then the opportunity exists for goodwill and a positive approach. Denktas and Vasiliou are taking part in the negotiations, and I believe that both are able political leaders who can make progress toward a solution.

[Baslamis] Would the Soviet Union host a quadripartite summit or a larger international conference?

[Popov] The Soviet Union is famous for its hospitality. What counts most, however, is that such a conference is held, not its venue. The diplomatic preparations for it

and displays of goodwill by the sides concerned are what is important. Naturally, the problem should must be settled by those who are directly concerned, but the Soviet Union is doing everything possible to help achieve this. We respect Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot interests and place a high value on regional security. The Cyprus dispute has gone on for a long time, and Cyprus is an exception to the general European trend. The experience gained from recent positive developments around the world, including the settlement of other regional disputes, creates a favorable atmosphere for a Cyprus solution.

[Baslamis] Although President Bush praised Mitsotakis, Ozal, and Vasiliou when he was interviewed by a MILLIYET correspondent some time ago, he made no reference to Rauf Denktas. Was this a mistake?

[Popov] I am not aware of what the U.S. President said. As far as I know, however, the United States is maintaining its contacts with the sides concerned, including Mr. Denktas and President Vasiliou. I said earlier that we regard Denktas and Vasiliou as partners in the effort to resolve the Cyprus problem.

Soviet Turks Picket Turkish Embassy in Moscow

LD2207223191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] Soviet Turks have picketed the Turkish Embassy in Moscow for more than a week to demand permission to travel to that country. They arrived from Kazakhstan, where anti-Turkish sentiments have been mounting among the native population. We are afraid that the Fergana tragedy may recur, some of the picketers have admitted. In that incident, that grew virtually out of nothing, scores of Turks were killed and thousands became refugees.

The Turkish ambassador in the USSR, Volkan Vural, has said his government has favorably responded to the Soviet Turks' requests for returning to their historical homeland.

Yanayev Talks With Ireland's Collins

LD2307174291 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1500 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Today USSR Vice President Yanayev received Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs Collins, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit, and those accompanying him. In the course of the conversation a broad range of problems concerning Soviet-Irish relations and cooperation between both countries in the international arena was examined.

Report on Visit

OW2407072091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

["Diplomatic Panorama" report by Mikhail Mayorov and Igor Porshnev, diplomatic correspondents: "There is no Problem in Soviet-Irish Relations"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Soviet-Irish dialogue covers different problems: from European ones to the United Nations Organization's role in the modern world, in the reconciliation of regional conflicts in particular. The last one is caused by the active part played by Ireland in the UN peace forces. Such were the characteristics given in the Second European department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry during the visit of the Irish Foreign Minister James Gerard Collins to the USSR which ends today—July, 23d. Soviet diplomatic circles consider that the Soviet-Irish talks were held in a favourable atmosphere. There are no particular problems in Soviet-Irish relations. They have common views on different international problems and there is Irish sympathy to the Soviet perestroyka.

The aid to the Soviet reforms and the business relations

Ireland is among the countries which provided humanitarian aid for the Soviet Union. It was 250 thousand British pounds sterling. There is much progress in trade which according to different sources has increased from 30 to 50 percent. In the Soviet Foreign Ministry they stress the Irish business circles' intentions to find particular ways of solving the problems of the Soviet-Irish cooperation. an example is the joint draft of the "Air-Riantal" [as received] company together with "Aeroflot" and the Soviet Civil Aviation Ministry. It has become one of the most successful such ventures in the world when two "duty free" shops opened in Sheremetevo. In prospect [as received] such shops may open in Pulkovo airport in leningrad and in some other places. It is surprising that the prices in these shops will not be higher than those in such shops worldwide. At the same time the Soviet liners flying through Shanon airport will be entitled to technical and similar aids.

European Parliament Chairman Meets Lukyanov

LD2207220691 Moscow TASS international Service in Russian 2025 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow, 22 July.(TASS)—Anatoliy Lukyanov, Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has had a meeting in the Kremlin with E.Baron Crespo, Chairman of the European Parliament, who is in the Soviet Union on on official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

An exchange of opinions on issues of the modern situation in Europe, which is characterized by a transition from confrontation to forming a new European architecture, was held in the course of a conversation which

passed in an atmosphere of amicability and constructiveness. They stressed the importance of coordinating the structures for cooperation which are being created in Europe and the tried and tested mechanisms for joint actions on the continent which already exist. The interlocutors spoke in favor of the further development of the parliamentary dimension of the CSCE process, in particular within the framework of the recently formed Parliamentary Assembly, and in favor of enhancing the role of parliamentarians in the matter of establishing multi-lateral dialogue between the Soviet Union and the European Community in the interests of strengthening stability on the continent, and creating a single European space for security and comprehensive cooperation. .

Meets Laptev

LD2307214591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1558 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jul (TASS)—On 22-23 July Enrike Baron Crespo, the chairman of the European Parliament, who is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, had conversations with Ivan Laptev, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Rafik Nishanov, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet. In a constructive and friendly atmosphere the sides exchanged opinions on issues of large-scale economic and political reforms in the USSR, interethnic relations and the preparation of a new Union Treaty. Various aspects of the development of the CSCE process and bilateral relations between the two parliaments, namely the USSR and the EC, were also discussed.

Gorbachev Awards Frenchman Friendship Order

LD2307172991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] We have just received a decree by the USSR president, awarding (Georges-Antoine Gruand), French citizen, an employee of Mercedes-Benz, the Order of Friendship of the Peoples. This is to mark a big contribution he made to the successful participation of KAMAZ [Kama car plant] joint-stock company's team in the international "Paris-Dakar-91" marathon motor rally, and to the development of friendship and mutual understanding between the USSR and France.

Latin America & Caribbean

CPSU Greets First Sandinist Congress

PM2307134791 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jul 91 Second Edition p 4

["To the First Congress of the Sandinist Front for the Liberation of Nicaragua"]

[Text] We cordially greet the participants of the first congress of the Sandinist Front for the National Liberation of Nicaragua [FSLN].

Sandinism's international prestige is based on its historic services to the rout of the Somozaist dictatorship and to the establishment of people's power and a democratic system in Nicaragua, with the FSLN occupying by right a worthy place among its lawful political institutions. Your organization has to its credit the achievement of accords on national reconciliation and the just settlement of the conflict in Central America, which was a contribution to the improvement of the situation in other regions as well and in the world as a whole.

The CPSU confirms its resolve to develop links with the FSLN in line with the principles of mutual respect and solidarity within the framework of the worldwide movement for social progress, genuine democracy, and human rights.

We wish the congress and your entire party successful work for the benefit of the people of friendly Nicaragua and for the strengthening of comprehensive ties between our countries.

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee Secretariat.

Commentary Views Anniversary

LD2307160791 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Commentary by Sergey Koshkin]

[Text] On 23d July 1961 a new organization was set up in Nicaragua and later called the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]. And here are notes from our commentator Sergey Koshkin.

Thirty years is the age of maturity not only for a person but for a political organization. As for the FSLN, it has already proved to be a viable organization enjoying the support of the Nicaraguan population.

The FSLN was formed on the basis of varied guerilla groups fighting against the bloody Somoza regime. In March 1979, the FSLN was already an organization with a unified leadership and a strategy. Its aim to overthrow the antipopular regime in Nicaragua was achieved owing to broad support by all the patriotic forces.

The FSLN has been in power for a decade. First was the time of search and victories, difficulties and failures. The Front met with a resistance from inside and outside enemies. Armed resistance by the opponents of political, social, and economic changes at once turned into a civil war. The Sandinist leaders had also to stand fast against the United States' trade blockade and economic sanctions.

True, there were mistakes of their own. As a result, Nicaragua had become the world's (?hostage). And by February 1990 General election it had no longer the support of the population. The people were tired of bloodshed and economic difficulties.

In this context the Sandinistas agreed to general elections under international control. According to the Front's leader and former president, Daniel Ortega, at the moment it was necessary to end the civil war.

After a defeat at the general elections, the FSLN became an opposition party but retained its position as a major political force. It's true the leaders had to change their attitude to many political and economic problems.

Summing up what had been done by the FSLN, it's well to remember the following: It played a decisive role in overthrowing the Somoza regime and always adhered to democratic principles and abided by the constitution adopted when it was in power. The Front had done what it could to bring national accord to the country suffering from military confrontation. This promoted a better political situation throughout the whole of Central America and launched a process of further search for peace in the region. And now the FSLN enjoys authority and popular support in the struggle for power within the framework of the present constitution.

Central American Presidential Talks 'Positive'

LD2407024591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1839 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow, 23 July (TASS)—The Soviet Union considers the results of the meeting of the presidents of the Central American countries last week in El Salvador as positive, a responsible representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry has told TASS.

According to the representative, decisions on questions of a political settlement in Central America, disarmament and the integration of the countries in the region and the adoption of the San Salvador declaration testify that the Central American leaders agreements to limit regional forces and armaments.

The Soviet diplomat noted that the document also contains a poorly balanced approach to the evaluation of the position of the participants in the negotiation process in El Salvador, a fact which is demonstrated by the unilateral demand presented to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front on its disarmament and demobilization under UN control. Such wording hardly facilitates progress in the peace dialogue, according to the officials, because experience shows that progress toward an El Salvador settlement is possible only on the basis of reasonable compromises between the government and the guerrilla leadership. The Soviet Union thinks the conflicting sides should concentrate on searching for mutually acceptable decisions to end the military conflict as soon as possible.

States which are not directly involved in the conflict should restrain themselves from statements or actions in favor of one or another of the conflicting sides, stressed the representative.

Iberoamerican Summit Meeting Held in Mexico

OW2407073891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

["Diplomatic Panorama" report: "Iberoamerican Countries in Guadalajara: An Unprecedented and Historical Event"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The two week long meeting of the leaders of the Iberoamerican countries in Guadalajara was a real historical event. This title given to the unprecedented summit by its participants was welcomed by the Soviet FM [Foreign Ministry] Latin American countries board official in his talks with a "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent. According to the Soviet diplomat, the meeting of Presidents and Prime-Ministers from 19 Latin American countries, including Spain and Portugal contributed to the confirmation of the principles of the new political thinking.

Guadalajara Declaration: The World's Trends

In the decisions taken in Guadalajara recent world trends were reflected. That is the aspirations for regional and world integration, democracy, stability and just peace, ensuring peoples well-being. The Latin American countries' aspirations for playing a greater role in the international community and in the world's economic cooperation, developing relations with all the countries, including the United States and the Soviet Union, should be considered in this context.

The Non-Ideological Advance

It was surprising that the Cuban leader Fidel Castro took part in the Guadalajara meeting. This very fact testifies that the Latin American countries showed a non-ideological advance towards international and regional problems as a whole. It could be only welcome considering the harsh consequence of the "cold war" period for the Latin American countries.

Foreign Ministry Official on Summit

OW1907092291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1200 GMT 18 Jul 91

["Diplomatic Panorama" report by diplomatic correspondent Mikhail Mayorov: "Ibero-American Summit in Guadalajara Is Seen in the Soviet Union as a Major Event"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A remarkable event, not only for Latin America, but on the global scale—was the comment by the Latin

American Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry on the first Ibero-American summit meeting between Latin American countries, Spain and Portugal, which has opened today, July 18, in Guadalajara, Mexico. The fact has been recognized by President M. Gorbachev who has sent a cable to the Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari wishing the meeting every success.

The Soviet Union expects the Guadalajara summit to make an important contribution to the global processes of integration, democratisation, and cooperation on an equal basis, with full respect for nations' peculiarities and freedom of choice. In common with Latin America, the Soviet Union is seeking a wider integration into the world economy. Moscow is also interested in the Ibero-American summit from the angle of more active and versatile cooperation with Latin American countries.

It was also pointed out at the Soviet Foreign Ministry that the Guadalajara meeting is being held in the run up to the celebrations of the 500th anniversary of America's discovery. The date can't be ignored in this country either. The Soviet government has set up a commission to prepare for the celebrations and some events to be held both on the national and international scale.

Political & Social

Meeting on Union Treaty Held in Novo-Ogarevo

Ter-Petrosyan Attends

LD2307143491 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1340 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] [Announcer] Work on the new draft Union treaty is continuing in Novo-Ogarevo. The heads of the plenipotentiary delegations for the union and the republics are there. Valeriy Kiosa, our correspondent, acquaints us with the details of the work.

[Kiosa] Hello.

[Announcer] Hello.

[Kiosa] The latest sitting of the leaders of plenipotentiary delegations of the republics to complete work on the new draft union treaty is taking place here today in Novo-Ogarevo. Who is taking part in the sitting? The presidents and chairmen of the supreme soviets of the nine republics which signed the well-known nine plus one statement, that is the Russian Federation, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenia, and the Ukraine. I should say that the Ukraine is being represented here today by Ivan Plyushch, first deputy chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet. Also taking part in this sitting today is Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet. Besides this the leaders of the republics of the Russian Federation and the autonomous republics of the Ukraine, Uzbekistan which are part of the Ukraine, [as heard] Georgia and Azerbaijan are taking part in the work. USSR Defense Minister Marshal Yazov, Vadim Shcherbakov, the country's first deputy prime minister, and Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the USSR foreign minister, have also arrived to take part in the sitting and are now participating in its work.

And so this sitting began at 1400. Under discussion are the results of the work by the group of experts on the thorough study of all remarks which were made on the draft union treaty. This is the very important document on which so much in our county now depends. The sitting, as I have already said, began at 1400. The journalists here in Novo-Ogarevo do not yet have any information about how it is going or about what problems are being discussed. We are waiting for a break during which it might be possible to speak with participants. That is probably all that I can report for the moment on the meeting today in Novo-Ogarevo.

Gorbachev Chairs Discussion

LD2307224391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] We have just been informed that the meeting of the plenipotentiary delegates of the nine republics, chaired by USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev, continues in Novo-Ogarevo, the government residence near Moscow. It is discussing the preparation of the Union treaty. Boris Yeltsin is participating in the meeting on the Russian side. The Ukraine is represented by the first deputy chairman of its Supreme Soviet. This time Ter-Petrosyan, leader of Armenia, is also present.

Experts 'Fulfilled' Mandate

LD2307150491 Moscow TASS in English 1328 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By TASS correspondent Boris Grishchenko]

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—The heads of republican delegations gathered for a meeting in Novo-Ogarevo, chaired by President Mikhail Gorbachev, today to complete the drafting of the basic document of a revamped Soviet Federation.

A group of experts assigned to put finishing touches to individual clauses of the treaty of union has on the whole fulfilled its mandate.

The meeting is being attended by top executives from the republics incorporated in the Russian Federation and the autonomous republics incorporated in the Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Georgia and Azerbaijan.

Republican Leaders Noted

OW2407060491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Republican delegates are conferring in Novo-Ogarevo near Moscow to Tuesday to finalize a treaty of the union. IF [INTERFAX] correspondent reports that taking part in the meeting are the leaders of sovereign states and republics which participated in the preliminary work on the treaty of the union.

The conference is being attended by the USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev, First Deputy Prime Minister Shcherbakov, Foreign Minister Bessmertnykh, Defense Minister Yazov, RSFSR President Boris Yeltsin, Belorussian Supreme Soviet chairman Dementey, and republican presidents; Nazarbayev, of Kazakhstan; Karimov, of Uzbekistan; Akayev, of Kyrgyzstan; Makhkamov, of Taiikistan; Niyazov, of Turkmenia; and Mutalibov, of Azerbaijan.

The Ukraine is represented by the First Deputy Prime Minister Pliushch and Armenia by the chairman of its supreme Soviet Ter-Petrosyan.

Meeting Reported

PM2407104591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 91 Second Edition p 1

["Own Information" report: "Meeting in Novo-Ogarevo"]

[Text] In Novo-Ogarevo, near Moscow, yesterday a session of the leaders of the republics' fully empowered

delegations to complete work on the draft Union treaty took place under the chairmanship of USSR President M.S. Gorbachev.

A period of nearly a year of strenuous efforts to elaborate a mutually acceptable text for the Union treaty is entering its concluding stage. The June Novo-Ogarevo meeting lent powerful impetus in making headway toward the interlinking and coordination of the positions of the republics, which have firmly decided to unite in a renewed Union. The "Nine plus One" formula has become the sign of a kind of turning point away from confrontation and disputes and toward consensus.

And now a new meeting. It is attended by representatives of the union republics and former autonomous formations. It is taken as a good sign that L. Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, is also taking part in the meeting. Well, it would be splendid if the formula that is well known to all were to acquire a new resonance: "Ten plus one."

The meeting in Novo-Ogarevo lasted until late into the evening, the debates proceeded with difficulty, but, as Kazakhstan President N. Nazarbayev told us on the front steps of the Novo-Ogarevo residence, sufficiently fruitfully.

When we left Novo-Ogarevo in the evening, the meeting was still continuing.

'Two New Drafts' Discussed

OW2407061991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1800 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Throughout Tuesday, the consultations in Novo-Ogarevo near Moscow between the Soviet President and republican leaders have proceeded to discuss commentaries on the draft Union treaty sent over by republican parliaments, an IF [INTERFAX] correspondent reports.

As is known, the committee on the drawing up of the Union treaty had transmitted its draft to the supreme soviets of Union and autonomous republics on July 17.

During a break in the discussions, Kazakhstan's president, Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev, told journalists that in a surprise development, there had been a proposal that the participants consider two new drafts of the document reflecting the position of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, as well as a draft prepared by the staff of the country's president and the Committee for Constitutional Supervision. The participants decided, however, that only the commentaries on the draft already communicated to the republics on July 17 would be considered.

The meeting had discussed 8 out of 23 items on the draft by 6 p.m. The main sticking point was again the old problem—how the rights of former autonomous republics are to be safeguarded and in which status they will be signing the Union treaty. So far, Tatarstan's stand has not changed.

The participants also debated defense policies and the coordination of the foreign policy of a new Soviet Union, which was why the meeting was attended by the Soviet Union's Foreign and Defense Ministers, Mssrs Aleksandr Bessmertnykh and Dmitriy Yazov.

In an interview to the IF's correspondent, the chairman of the country's Supreme Soviet, Mr Anatoliy Lukyanov, said the fact that his opposite number from Armenia, Mr Levon Ter-Petrosyan, had been taking part was "a victory of common sense."

"This is not surprising for me. Common sense has scored a victory in Armenia itself. I believe that there is a growing understanding in other republics as well that a Soviet Union is necessary. Sooner or later, the market will make its influence felt, and other republics will also accede to the Union treaty," Mr. Lukianov said.

As for Mr. Ter-Petrosyan himself, he has not met with the press so far, our correspondent reports.

'Contentious Issues' Remain

LD2307214491 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 23 Jul 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Excerpts] Another meeting at Novo-Ogarevo to finalize the text of the Union treaty was one of the most important events of the day. Sergey Dorenko has the details:

[Begin recording] [Dorenko] There are newcomers among the Novo-Ogarevo group. Suddenly Ter-Petrosyan has arrived from Armenia. Marshal Yazov himself came to look at civilians working. Yazov departed after staying just over three hours. Defense issues provoked the least arguments among the participants of the meeting.

[Anatoliy Lukyanov] I think that all the republics were aware from the start of the fact that defense must be within the Union's competence.

[Dorenko] There still are contentious issues, though. There was the hope that the time for signing the treaty would be indicated today, at least approximately, but the meeting started with the participants being given documents which they saw for the first time. [passage omitted]

Nazarbayev believes that the more confusion and arguments there are in Novo-Ogarevo, the greater the chances of republican leaders getting together in Alma-Ata without the center. They will defend Gorbachev's interests even in his absence—the republics still need

Gorbachev—but it is easier to hide from other union leaders in Alma-Ata than in the Moscow region.

The issues of taxation remain contentious. Russia and the Ukraine will only join the union on their own conditions. In the Ukraine, Kravchuk is being overwhelmed by supporters of independence; he has not even come to this meeting and has sent his deputy instead. Ter-Petrosyan's arrival from a very sovereign Armenia inspires one with hope. According to the participants, he did not argue at the sitting but sat there silently.

The discussion continues. Here is an observation removed from politics: The Russian president has the most impressive equipage.

Work on Treaty Completed

LD2407053891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0529 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow, 23 July. [dateline as received]—At 0130 today at Novo-Ogarevo, the meeting of the heads of the plenipotentiary delegations of the republics who had gathered here under the chairmanship of USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev to complete the work on the basic document of the new Soviet federation was concluded.

Speaking to journalists immediately after the meeting, Mikhail Gorbachev stated: "The work on the draft of the new Union treaty has been completed".

Gorbachev News Conference

LD2407133991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1100 GMT 24 Jul 91

[News conference with USSR President Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev at Novo-Ogarevo "in the early hours of this morning"; correspondents not identified—recorded]

[Text] [Gorbachev] For this conference, this meeting of leaders of delegations of plenipotentiary representatives who are empowered to to sign—and they have as a rule been given powers for a final editing of—the Union treaty, we singled out five points as maybe the most important, that is, the subjects of the treaty; delimitation of powers; taxes; property; and the Constitutional Court. I should say straightaway that in the final analysis we came to an agreement. Today one can say that work on the draft Union treaty, on the new Union treaty, has been completed. Now, this text has been revised on the basis of these discussions and has been distributed to all the participants of the meeting, for them to read it through tomorrow—that's already today, in fact!—and endorse it.

The final wording of the question of, let's say the article relating to, Union taxes has yet to be completed. But progress has been made here too, progress in accommodating one another. The basis of this is nevertheless that once we recognize that it is a Union state, a federation, a sovereign state, this comes about as a result of the uniting of sovereign republics, it must have at its disposal all necessary attributes and powers, including the right to federal, Union, taxes. But it was said quite clearly that this should be more definite and clear, because probably the republics have retained a certain anxiety from the past: how is this money to be collected and where did it go? That is understandable. So a precise, fixed percentage for these federal taxes, supervision of their expenditure, in brief, the role of the sovereign republics will be enhanced here.

In other words, all topics were worked through. After this there follows a very important stage, the work will thus be completed and the treaty will be opened for signing. There was a big discussion. I will not say it was easy. Still, I will compare the first discussions at this table here in Ogarevo with the present discussions. The concluding ones on the biggest issues. After all, they are very different from each other. A mutual understanding has emerged, a certain culture has taken shape in the discussions, a level of debate. Representatives of the Ukraine took part today. They were very active in discussing all the issues, and they deemed it necessary and important to stress here that the Ukraine is firmly in favor of the Union and of cooperation with all those taking part in the Union treaty.

Also today—yet more good news—Comrade Ter-Petrosyan, leader of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, took part. I had the feeling that this is backed by the most important desire of the Armenian people to continue their cooperation with all the peoples in our Union. They have a referendum coming up, but nevertheless his appearance today is a very important sign, expressing, I believe, the mood of the Armenian people, and I welcome that.

So it is a big day, a big event, a most important one, and great progress toward mutual understanding and toward the Union, the new Union. I took the opportunity, since as yet the draft Union treaty was being worked up on the basis of the discussions held here and the proposals we made, to brief those taking part in the meeting about the results of my trip to London, and the Group of Seven meeting, and what is emerging from that. We had agreed on our approaches on the eve of the Seven and after that meeting we were of one mind, with one assessment of the outcome and the importance of that event: a start has been made in a very important amd major process. We, the soviet people, and all the republics, have a great deal to do within the framework of our reforms in order to move more quickly toward other states and become organically involved in world economic ties. We had today, I consider, a very important exchange of opinions relating to how we should resolve the problem of food supply, because the situation is not simple. Kazakhstan has been hit by drought. A number of oblasts of Siberia have been hit by drought, and even Bashkiria and Tataria have been hit by drought. This will, or course, affect not only our bread resources but also our feed resources. We thus agreed, by using all of our means, to

work urgently on the problem of food supply and on how we will live from harvest to harvest. With all the difficulties we must try to find everything possible to guarantee the maintenance at an appropriate level of the food supply program.

[Journalist] Is the date for the preliminary signing not determined, the preliminary date?

[Gorbachev] The formula is such: the work has been completed, the document is being endorsed, it is being given its final definite form, the procedure is being worked out and it will be open for signing. In this connection we have not considered it necessary to point to a specific date, that is, the process of signing. We have come close to the process of the signing of the document.

[Journalist] But how will the autonomous formations sign, the former autonomous formations of Russia?

[Gorbachev] I think on the basis of accord, common accord, within the framework of their own responsibility for the federation and this was present here. We proceed from the fact that there cannot be two standards during the formation, during the renewal of the Russian Federation and during the formation and renewal of the Union Federation. We favor a lively, dynamic Russian Federation and a Union Federation; different standards are not acceptable here. Without a renewed Russian Federation it is impossible and it is not serious to speak about the issue of our Union. In the same way, Russia also needs a Union Federation which is also lively, strong and dynamic. Within this framework this issue of the signing appeared to be a subordinate issue, but the participants in the treaty were present here, those who are to append their signatures to this treaty?

Today Tatarstan confirmed the position which was formulated within the framework of this republic's Supreme Soviet. At the same time, as we have understood it from the conversations, reports and things said by Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, Tatarstan simultaneously does not conceive of itself as being outside the living bond with the entire Russian Federation. At the same time, we agreed that this issue is and will be a subject of further discussions between the leadership of Russia and that of Tatarstan. We will undoubtedly have a part in that discussion, proceeding from the important premises, the main, leading premises, that we are for a unified, solid and dynamic Russian Federation and for a living Union federation of sovereign republics.

[Journalist] Was there discussion of the issue of the Dnestr and Gagauz republics and also of those rayons of Georgia and the Baltic republics which intend independently to enter the Union treaty?

[Gorbachev] This question did not arise in specific terms today. But there did arise the question of republics which were not present around the table here, and of how the process should develop with them. All participants in the conversation spoke in favor of—that is, those present here are in favor of this new Union treaty and of signing it. Naturally they are bound by certain principles. The question of the republics which have not yet made up their mind will be dealt with within the framework of legislation, that is constitutionally. We hope that Moldavia, as a result of debating the matter, will nevertheless come to the same choice as Armenia is coming to.

Armenia, I believe, to judge from the mood among the Armenian people, is in favor of being in the Union, and of being a member on an equal basis with other sovereign republics.

[Journalist] So is it now: ten plus one'? Can we call it that now?

[Gorbachev] Well, maybe. But I do not want to say, at the moment, that this formula can be accepted and registered, established as a actual fact, because it is a process that has begun and I think that it will come about. After all, this is what we are going to do. After all, our treaty is going to be an open one. We will, after all, proceed from the premise that there is a deep-seated desire in all our peoples, of all 15 republics, to continue joint cooperation. In one case this may be stable cooperation within the framework of the Union, in other cases some other forms of relations with the Union may arise on the basis of the constitution, but this is something that life will demonstrate.

I would invite all the peoples, since we are moving toward a very deep reform of our federation, toward recognition of sovereignty, toward a major redistribution of powers in favor of the republics—I would invite all, all the republics, all the peoples to seek self-determination on precisely this path, on the basis of these approaches, because other approaches entail the tackling of very, very difficult matters. They could exacerbate the situation. I ask: Why do we need all this division? You know, after long and deep contemplation I have come to believe that it is very difficult for us to split up. This is simply very, virtually impossible. So I would be in favor not of division, not of secession of all, but in favor of profound redistribution and provision of sovereignty within the framework of the Union, within the framework of a new federation, by virtue of this, in favor of reliability, and confidence in the revival of every people, of their sense of well- being. But all in all this is maybe the most complex, the most difficult process underway within the framework of our federation, but it seems to me that now we already have the great experience needed to reason calmly and advise confidently and knowledgeably how to act.

Just look at what happens. This is, after all, also interesting. When we invite people to the Council of the Federation, nine or 10 republics come, but when the matter of finding a way out of the crisis, of how to tackle economic matters is being discussed, then 13 or 15 republics come. That is how much we are all dependent upon each other and interconnected. I believe we will move forward, preserving respect for each people, but also on certain principles.

[Journalist] Mikhail Sergeyevich, tell us please, did you touch upon the current financial situation now prevailing in the country?

[Gorbachev] Yes.

[Journalist, continuing] What discussion was there about this problem?

[Gorbachev] We discussed this in connection with my report on the outcome of the Seven. I said that people in the West had displayed the political will to support us and to come closer, some way to meet us, to cooperate in the creation of new forms of economic cooperation on the basis of the adoption of the general rules of a market economy. But in this respect we have to do a great deal for ourselves and change, just as the West has to think out a great deal and make decisions. If we are just going to change but Cocom and all kinds of customs networks, restrictions, obstacles, and all the requirements of, you know, the international economic organizations remain over there—well, then it would be difficult to set up that kind of active cooperation. When I say that we have to change, we have to deal with the issues of macrostabilization, meaning, first and foremost, financial stabilization.

It was also within this framework that we discussed in brief the issue of the situation in the financial sphere, what we should do. The ministers of the economy, the finance ministers of the republics, in conjunction with Shcherbakov, Comrade Pavlov's deputy, and the relevant ministers in our Union Cabinet of Ministers have now carried out the work. Tomorrow the Cabinet of Ministers has to meet in order to assess everything that has been worked up by the ministers, appraise it and make a decision. That contains precisely all the steps directed at dealing with these financial problems, at stabilization. These are serious measures.

[Journalist] Mikhail Sergeyevich, did you touch upon matters relating to the banking system? There have been many criticisms about the way this is set out in this Union treaty.

[Gorbachev] Today, of course, there should be a single note- issuing center where all the republics must be present and we agreed to decide this quickly. Because there cannot be a situation where there could be several currencies, several note-issuing centers. It will be not a single market then, not a single economic space, it will be generally something one may call a disgrace. This disgrace will spell disaster. Therefore, the understanding that we are now departing from the chaos which we created when we began to tear apart the single economic space, the single market, and how gravely this is affecting our economy, was demonstrated here. Once again here our understanding was expressed of the need to solve these questions more rapidly, including, of course, the role of the banks.

[Journalist] Mikhail Sergeyevich, were the prospects of the forthcoming meeting with U.S. president touched upon?

[Gorbachev] This is being accepted by everyone in a positive way, as a result of work which took many years. I think this is a great event. Many of those who were present here will take part one way or another, in one form or another, in all...

[Journalist interrupting] Possibly, there will be contacts between the republics and, say, the delegation which will arrive in the end of July?

[Gorbachev] I think that there will be contacts, I think so, and this is normal.

Gorbachev: 'We Arrived at Accord'

LD2407101191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0923 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow, 24 Jul (TASS)—A meeting between heads of the authorized delegations of republics, who gathered under the chairmanship of USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev to complete work on the draft new Union treaty, ended in Novo-Ogarevo last night. At 0200, the head of state told journalists: "The work of the Union treaty is complete"... The main thing, he said, is that in the final analysis we arrived at accord. The text of the treaty has just been finalized and distributed to those taking part in the session. It only remains to formulate the issue of the article on federal tax. But things are already clear on that, as well. It is important that there be clearly established supervision over the spending of these funds. Such a way of putting things is in the interests of the union and of the republics, the head of state remarked. Later, he continued, another important stage will follow: The treaty will be open for signing.

I would not say that this 12-hour discussion has been easy, no. However, comparing the first exchanges of views held here with what we have finally arrived at, I will note: There are great differences. We have learned mutual understanding together, and standards of principled discussion of the most acute issues have developed.

Representatives of the Ukraine who were very active in the discussion of all problems also took part in the meeting today, the president said. They considered is necessary to stress that the people of the Ukraine are in favor of the Union, of cooperation with all participants in the treaty. And there's another piece of good news today. L.S. Ter-Petrosyan, the leader of the Supreme Soviet of Armenia, was with us. You felt that behind his arrival stands the main desire of the Armenian people to continue cooperation with all the peoples of the renewed Union. This, I think, is an important and good sign and we welcome it, said the USSR president. Those taking part in the meeting, he continued, relying upon the will and the desire of their republics, expressed complete support for the positive trends that have taken shape in

relations between the peoples of Armenia and Azerbaijan and voiced willingness to further their development in every way.

Going on to announce that he familiarized the participants in the discussion with the results of his London meetings the USSR president stressed: We understand that we, too, must do a lot in order to move more quickly toward meeting the other states. The leaders of the "seven" share this view too, applying it to themselves.

Touching upon current issues in the country's life, Mikhail Gorbachev said that the question of food supplies was discussed from all sides during the meeting. The situation is complicated. Drought has affected vast regions and major grain growing areas. As we agreed, we will use all our possibilities and all necessary operational measures. Our opinion here is united: This issue is a priority issue. Against all the difficulties we must search out and we will search out all necessary possibilities in order to support and ensure the program for providing the country with food.

Asked about the attitude of those participating in the session to the republics which have not been represented in Novo-Ogarevo, Mikhail Gorbachev said: The Union treaty is open to all republics. The process is going on, and that must be the starting point. I am confident that the peoples of all 15 republics have a profound desire to continue cooperation. In some cases this will be implemented in the context of the Union, and in others one can assume mutual ties with a renewed union taking various forms. Life will show us. Embarking on a very profound reformation of our federation and a serious redistribution of powers in favor of the republics, I would invite all the peoples to make their own decisions taking precisely this approach. For other approaches are bound up with resolving very difficult issues which might exacerbate the situation.

I am not in favor of division, not in favor of secession, but for a thorough-going sovereignization of the republics in the context of a new union, a new federation. This road promises many serious pluses and gains. It seems to me that we now possess greater experience in order to discuss this topic calmly and confer in friendly fashion on how to act. At the basis of this position is the aspiration to move toward each other while preserving respect for every people.

Replying to questions, the USSR president touched on the forthcoming meeting with the head of the U.S. administration, calling it "a major and important event". He voiced the view that during the U.S. President's visit, his contacts with the republics will also be set up. I consider this a normal matter, said Mikhail Gorbachev.

On the eve of the CPSU Central Committee plenum, many of the questions were about this event. In particular, journalists were interested in the outline of the new CPSU program, and the assessment of it by the general secretary of the Communist Party Central Committee.

"I think," said Mikhail Gorbachev, "that the party is faced with an important choice. It has to find a program document that will precisely define its guidelines and objectives. The party itself now has to work out answers to these questions in the context of the new situation in society at present, where we are dealing with real political pluralism. This program is meant to solve many of the problems engendered by life and I am certain that the draft that we have worked out, given enhancement, will help the party to catch its breath. It will become the mouthpiece for the ideas not only of certain social groups and strata, but also for nationwide interests, and people's aspirations, and will actively assist the tackling of our urgent tasks. A special feature of the program is that it will be up to date. Most probably this will be the program for the nineties. After all, it will be during these years that much is solved and that the foundations will be laid that will determine the life of society and the country for many decades to come, said Mikhail Gorbachev in conclusion.

Preparations for CPSU Plenum Reported

Gorbachev To Propose New Program

AU2307071391 Paris AFP in English 2159 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow, July 22 (AFP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will submit a draft for a "Western-style social democratic" party programme to a plenary session of his Communist Party's Central Committee Thursday, the reform-minded NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA paper said in its Tuesday edition.

Mr. Gorbachev, who in addition to being president remains secretary-general of the party, is also expected to announce a date for the signing of the new Union treaty which is to set up a new relationship between the central government and the Soviet republics, the paper said.

A date for an extraordinary Communist Party congress, possibly mid-November, which would officially adopt the new party platform could be set by the Central Committee, according to the twice-weekly NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA.

The paper further noted that Mr. Gorbachev could resign from his post as secretary general at the congress.

For the last year Mr. Gorbachev has turned down five drafts for a new party programme drawn up by a committee that was set up at the party's 28th congress in July last year.

Mr. Gorbachev will now propose a sixth draft submitted by his cabinet chief Georgiy Shakhnazarov.

If this project was accepted, it would mean the end to Marxism- Leninism, the Soviet Union's official ideology, the paper said.

Commenting on the project, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's chief editor Vitaliy Tretyakov said Mr. Gorbachev was "very much afraid" of the plenary session, but he added that the president "will win, that is remain in the Communist Party and remain secretary-general".

Gorbachev Going 'With Great Confidence'

LD2307205991 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 23 Jul 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Vitaliy Ignatenko, head of the USSR president's press service, answered our correspondent's question today on Gorbachev's possible resignation from the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee at the plenum opening on Thursday. He warned against premature forecasts and said that Gorbachev is going to the plenum with great confidence in its constructive nature.

Paper Carries Draft Program

LD2307124891 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] It has been officially announced in Moscow that a regular plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party will open on Thursday. The meeting will be of decisive importance to the future of the party and its leadership. The plenary meeting will consider the draft of the new CPSU program.

Today the INDEPENDENT GAZETTE [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA] carries a draft program which it claims will be submitted for the consideration of the Central Committee members. The document says the party has as its main goals socialism, democracy, and progress. Communists are proposed to critically assess former experience, overcome the negative consequences of the past, to reorientate their activity, and implement profound democratization of the party. The GAZETTE believes the draft is similar to the pattern of classical social democracy, that is here socialism is believed as a movement in a definite direction and not as a state of society. An acute struggle betwween the conservatives and reformists is expected at the plenary meeting around the draft party program.

'Summary' of Draft Program

OW2407053991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At the request of our subscribers we present a summary of the new draft program of the CPSU "Socialism, democracy and progress: published in the July 23 issue of the "NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA" newspaper. The newspaper says the draft will be submitted to a CPSU CC [Central Committee] plenary meeting scheduled for July 25.

The draft program points out that "the CPSU currently represents a party favoring democratic reform, political and economic freedom, social justice, human values and civil concord."

"We intend to use only legal political methods in the framework of parliamentary democracy. The CPSU will seek to win deputies' mandates at democratic election, as well as people's support for its election program. The CPSU is prepared to cooperate and set up unions and coalitions with other parties and organizations in order to ensure national concord and democratic reform," the draft emphasizes.

As the USSR turns into a federation of sovereign states, the CPSU should be based on the principle of independence of the republic's communist parties and autonomy of local party organizations.

Democracy inside the CPSU can be guaranteed by recognizing the right of every member of the party to voice his position on any problem, to profess a religion or have atheistic convictions, to work in one of its organizations or to promote its policy in some other way and to voluntarily give material support for the party.

The CPSU program for the 90's focuses on the following urgent tasks: to prevent the collapse of the economic mechanism and the multinational statehood, to normalize the political situation, to stabilize the market, to ensure regular food supplies and to enforce law and order. That could be reached through the decisive and consistent pursuit of democratic reform.

The CPSU has as its aims:

In political sphere—the transformation of the Soviet multinational state into a democratic federation of sovereign republics, the establishment of a multiparty system, the division of legislative, executive and judicial authorities and the introduction of a human rights legislation of the USSR in accordance with the international standards.

In the sphere of ethnic relations—the realization of the right of peoples for self-determination and cultural autonomy, the settlement of ethnic conflicts using legal methods and dialogue, the consolidation of rights of small nations and peoples who suffered reprisals and deportations.

In economic sphere—the re-orientation of the economy for meeting consumer demands, catching up with the international scientific-technological level, the recognition of various forms of ownership—state, private, shareholders' and cooperative—the creation of a regulated market, the introduction of a free price system with state subsidies to low-income groups of the population, the priority development of the agro-industrial complex.

In social sphere—the pursuit of a state policy which would permit to [as received] minimize inevitable difficulties during the transition period.

In foreign policy the CPSU favours the new political mentality for the development of interstate realtions.

Meeting the demands of the Soviet people, the CPSU will be able to fulfil all of its program goals.

Aims of Program's Publication Viewed

PM2307211991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 91 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "For the Sake of Sensation. Who Wants to Stoke the Atmosphere Before the Central Committee Plenum and Why"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee plenum starts tomorrow. There is great interest in it among the public, as evidenced by the letters and numerous phone calls to the PRAVDA Editorial Office. This is natural, since the plenum participants will be examining the draft new CPSU program, which defines our party's aims and tasks, its ideological guidelines, and the ways for its radical renewal.

It is also natural that there have been lively, heated discussions among Communists on these problems. PRAVDA discussed in detail the recent session of the Program Commission and the discussions on this subject by the CPSU Central Committee's permanent commissions. The most valuable proposals have been taken into account during the finalizing of the draft. In short, in accordance with the 28th Congress decisions, a collective creative quest is under way. Its results will be summed up by the CPSU Central Committee plenum so that the draft program may be subsequently submitted for party-wide discussion.

But somebody clearly dislikes this course of events. Somebody wants to introduce in it an element of scandalous sensation, to reveal some kind of backstage intrigues, and to distort the essence of the work on the CPSU's program document. Thus, the 23 July issue of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA decided to publish the draft of the program distributed to plenum participants, giving over an entire page to it. Well, that is their business, although I think it would have been ethical to have asked the CPSU Central Committee or the Program Commission first. The party is making no secret of its program, but why rush to publish a document which is still being worked on?

The front-page NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA commentary somewhat clarifies the reason for the haste. Clearly, the editorial office very much wanted to make its contribution to whipping up feelings and initiating a conflict on the authorship of the draft. These were the headlines used for the item: "Conservatives Prepare To Attack, Reformers Prepare Counterattack," "Yeltsin Decided To Enliven Coming Plenum by Issuing Decree on Departyization in Russia," "Meanwhile the Struggle over New Draft CPSU Program Continues in Communist Party Apparatus. Penultimate Version Was Dumped." And so on, and so forth.

If the NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA people really wanted to be objective about the details of the work on the draft, there would seemingly have been nothing simpler than to study the versions already sent out twice to Program Commission members, and compare them with the final version which the newspaper decided to publish. And one could have found without any particular difficulty that in terms of content the draft, which for some unknown reason NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA wholly attributed to G. Shakhnazarov, in practice differs little from the penultimate version that was allegedly dumped. The PRAVDA Editorial Office has been informed that the draft prepared for the plenum—which differs substantially in its form of exposition—was worked on collectively with the participation of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and his deputy. Other Program Commission members also participated, as did representatives of the actual creative group whose work the NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA journalists disparagingly termed "trickery by Marxist theoreticians."

Needless to say, there will be a blunt discussion at the plenum, and different opinions and approaches will clash. After all, we are talking about a document which is of vital importance to the party. It is to be hoped that the plenum participants will examine the draft program from these fundamental positions and with a sense of their great responsibility to the party. Sensations only make people's work harder. Which, in fact, is what they are supposed to do.

KOMMUNIST Editor Gives Preview

PM2307152491 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 22 Jul 91 p 4

[Interview with KOMMUNIST Editor Nail Bikkenin by Marcello Villari; date, place not given]

[Text] Moscow—The CPSU is approaching its 25 July plenum more divided than ever, against the background of its defeat in the Russian elections and the departure of prestigious leaders—such as Shevardnadze (some regard Aleksandr Yakovlev's imminent departure as a certainty, too)—who are moving onto new political experiences. It is under such critical conditions that the Central Committee will discuss its new draft program: It outlines a new party abandoning its old ideological baggage and accepting democratic rules. But is it not too late now? We put this question to the editor of the CPSU's theoretical journal, KOMMUNIST, Nail Bariyevich Bikkenin.

"Yes, I agree with you; we have reached here too late, and unfortunately some party figures, including my former boss, Yakovlev, are now setting up this movement for democratic reforms. I say 'unfortunately' because there is a serious risk of the party's ending up in the conservatives' hands. I can understand Yakovlev's resentfulness over SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA's attacks, but what will happen if he leaves? Let us not forget that he has headed such crucial committees as those on

foreign policy, the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact, and the rehabilitation of the victims of Stalinist repression. All this could be quickly called into question."

[Villari] What will relations between the CPSU and Shevardnadze's movement be like in the immediate future?

[Bikkenin] The organizing group is divided: Some—such as Yeltsin, Sobchak, and Popov—want to turn it into a party. Others—such as Arkadiy Volskiy and, I think, Yakovlev—believe that it should remain a movement. This is not an unimportant issue: If a party is formed, the Communists that join it will have to leave the CPSU; otherwise dual membership (of the movement and the CPSU—L'UNITA editor's note) would be possible, and that will avoid painful choices.

[Villari] It is difficult to believe that the entire party can identify with the new program: Will there be the split that many now consider inevitable?

[Bikkenin] The plan has been criticized on several sides. The neo-Stalinists consider it a capitulation. Indeed, everything separates us from them—from the assessment of perestroyka, which they consider a mistake, to the condemnation of Stalinism, to the acceptance of the contemporary Western world. In other words, I see no basis for a compromise with Nina Andreyeva...

[Villari] So the trend is toward a split...

[Bikkenin] I can say that those who agree with this program signed by Gorbachev will remain in the party. Those who disagree with it will have to make a decision.

[Villari] In a recent speech Gorbachev talked about a socialist oriented party. What could this phrase mean in practice—a change in the CPSU's name?

[Bikkenin] I do not believe that the issue of the name will be raised, though we are discussing this a great deal, too. In my opinion, we must give priority to the substance and characteristics of the new party. Our newspaper was called KOMMUNIST before 1985, and it is called the same now, but they are two completely different papers.

[Villari] So let us consider matters of substance: How would you describe the party that will emerge from the new program—social democratic or neo-communist?

[Bikkenin] I would describe it as the party of democratic communists that will combine the best features of social democracy and of the communist tradition. I would like to point out a passage in the introduction which says: We emphasize that the Russian Social Democratic Party's program, drawn up with the decisive help of Lenin and Plekhanov, proceeded from the impossibility of separating democratic tasks from socialist tasks. I feel it is unnecessary to draw your attention to the fact that this is the first time that a CPSU document has mentioned Plekhanov, who, as you know, was a social democrat and never became a Bolshevist.

[Villari] A political and parliamentary organization to replace the party as apparatus: The conservatives have promised to wage war on such a prospect at the coming plenum. Do you envisage a dramatic session?

[Bikkenin] Surprises are possible. I do not rule out the possibility that the issue of confidence in Gorbachev will be raised, because there are many organizations openly attacking him. Despite this, I believe that the plenum will ultimately back the general secretary. We have the experience of the previous plenum in April when Gorbachev, bombarded by criticisms, tendered his resignation. We know how that turned out. In other words, I believe that this time, too, the fear that Gorbachev's resignation could have serious consequences for the party will prevail. Another clash could occur over Shevardnadze. The conservatives will request a debate on the issue—inasmuch as he is a Central Committee member—with a view to reaching a political condemnation and, more generally,a verdict on those who have joined the movement, such as Yakovlev. We will fight to avert this and to ensure that, as in Shevardnadze's case, note is simply taken of his resignation from the CPSU.

Preview by Dzasokhov

PM2407090391 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 91 Second Edition p 2

["CPSU Central Committee Press Center" report: "Meeting With Journalists"]

[Text] There was a meeting at the NOVOSTI news agency yesterday between A.S. Dzasokhov, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the journalistic organization's collective.

He described the three decisive spheres in which marked advances have been made in a positive direction.

In the first place, society is negotiating a domestic political crisis that is at its height, owing to the exacerbation of differences between all-Union power and the republics. The clear will of the majority of our people to preserve multinational Soviet socialist statehood played a substantial role in that process. Second, one would hope that the most dangerous, self-destructive phase of the socioeconomic crisis is behind us and we are going to see some stabilization of the economic situation on the basis of regulated market relations. Third, one can claim today that the Soviet Union is currently acquiring favorable international conditions for the implementation of a national development strategy.

It was noted at the meeting that the upcoming CPSU Central Committee plenum, which will be examining the new draft Program, will show that the party has real internal potential for renewal. The solution of this vitally important task is inconceivable without providing a theoretical foundation for the CPSU's program goals and its ideological and political self-determination. The essence of the prepared draft program as an all-party

manifesto is the fact that the CPSU is not just confirming, but is creatively expounding its concept of the socialist choice taking world social experience into account.

The speaker drew attention to a number of ideas and provisions expressed in the draft, specifically the course of turning the party into an organization capable of implementing the strategy of democratic socialism. This vision of our development is not likely to satisfy those who continue to assume a dogmatic posture. On the other hand, it is this kind of renewal of the CPSU that those who play up to anticommunist sentiments fear.

Noting the great interest in the upcoming CPSU Central Committee plenum, A. Dzasokhov said that there are real prerequisites for preserving party unity on the basis of the broad democratic methods that are taking shape in intraparty life. In view of this the plenum has to perform a bringing-together and uniting role. And it is necessary to display political will, common sense, and responsibility.

As for the demands to convene a CPSU congress, the idea is in tune with the decisions of the 28th party congress preordaining the convening of an all-Union party conference to adopt a new CPSU Program.

CPSU Issues Statement Against Yeltsin Decree

CM2407093191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jul 1991 Second Edition p 1

["Statement of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo"]

[Text] The Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] President has adopted a decree halting the activity of organizational structures of political parties and mass public movements in the state bodies, institutions, and organizations of the RSFSR. The functioning of organizational structures of trade unions is being made dependent upon the agreement of the administration. Thus USSR citizens in the Russian Federation are being denied their right to conduct their activities as part of public associations on a legal basis in organs of state management and in state institutions, organizations, and enterprises situated on RSFSR territory.

These provisions in the decree are a significant restriction of the democratic freedoms and rights of citizens and run counter to Article 48 of the USSR Constitution, which guarantees USSR citizens the right to take part both directly and through public associations, including political parties, in running state affairs, and to Article 51 of the USSR Constitution and Article 49 of the RSFSR Constitution, which guarantee public organizations the conditions for successfully carrying out their appointed tasks. In this respect the decree also runs counter to Articles 10 and 15 of the USSR law "On Public Associations," which enshrines the right of public associations, including political parties, to determine their own structure in their rules.

The clauses concerning the restriction of the activities of political parties and mass public movements do not accord with the norms accepted by the world community of the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights and other documents ratified by the USSR establishing the equal rights and opportunity for all to take part in the conduct of affairs of state without discrimination, as well as a person's right to freedom of association.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo deeply regrets that the RSFSR president's first steps in this capacity are marked by an unconstitutional, undemocratic act, by illegal interference in the activities of public associations, and by violation of their rights. This creates obstacles for the development of the process of public consensus and for constructive cooperation, on which USSR citizens are placing great hopes.

It is easy to see that the new decree of the RSFSR president is directed, first and foremost, against the CPSU, and aims to destroy the established party structures. The CPSU, born from cells at plants and factories, and expressing workers' interests, cannot conceive of an existence outside working collectives. It was at the CPSU's own initiative that the functions of the party and the state should be divided. It opposes interference in the activities of state bodies and directorates. Its organizations act strictly within the framework of the law.

The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee calls upon the constitutional bodies of the Russian Federation and the USSR not to permit a slide along the road of the overthrow of democracy and flouting legality. It is the duty of members of the CPSU to show restraint and to step up their own political activity in defense of the legal rights and interests of the working people on the basis of constitutional norms and the CPSU Rules.

Army, KGB CPSU Groups Protest

LD2307200691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1925 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jul (TASS)—In connection with the promulgation of a decree by the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] president "On Ceasing the Activities of the Organizational Structures of Political Parties and Mass Public Movements in State Bodies, Establishments, and Organizations of the RSFSR", a statement by the Buro of the All-Army Party Committee of the CPSU organization in the USSR Armed Forces, by the party committees of the CPSU organizations in the USSR KGB and in the internal troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] has been issued here.

"This decree by the RSFSR president runs counter to the USSR Constitution, the USSR law "On Public Associations", the international pact on civil and political human rights and thus leads to an increase in legal nihilism, a stepping up of the political confrontation in society, curtailment of democratic processes, and establishment of dictatorship, states the document. This is

particularly impermisible at the concluding stage of preparations for the conclusion of a new Union treaty.

"It is our view that the adoption of the decree on the eve of the CPSU Central Committee plenum aims to distract communists from discussion of the draft party program, to provoke a split in it and, in the end, to remove the CPSU from the country's political life as a consolidating force of society.

"The RSFSR president's decree proposes that the question of banning the functioning of CPSU organizations in the Armed Forces, KGB bodies and units, and in the internal troops of the USSR MVD should be examined. We are convinced that this will lead to a lowering of political moral in the labor and military collectives and that it will negatively affect their cohesion and the combat readiness of formations, warships, and units.

"The Buro of the All-Army Party Committee of the CPSU organization in the USSR Armed Forces, of the party committees of the CPSU organizations in the USSR KGB and in the internal troops of the USSR MVD appeals to the people's deputies of the RSFSR and the USSR, the Supreme Soviets of the RSFSR and the USSR, and to the USSR president to prevent this antidemocratic and illegal act from being implemented.

"We appeal to the communists in the Army and Navy, in the bodies and troops of the USSR KGB and of the USSR MVD, to all those who hold dear our multinational fatherland, to close their ranks, to defend democratic rights, to strengthen the unity of the party, to facilitate in every way the country's emergence from the crisis, the stopping of inter-ethnic strife and bloodshed, and the ensuring of reliable defense of the Soviet people's peaceful toil".

Shevardnadze Warns of 'Chaos and Civil War'

OW2407043791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

["Diplomatic Panorama" report: "Mr. Shevardnadze: 'We Should Go To the Loft, With Both the President and the Government Relying on Democratic Forces'"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Soviet Foreign Policy Association President Mr. Shevardnadze met the Irish Foreign Minister Mr. James Gerard Collins. During the course of the hour and a half long meeting they discussed the internal situation in the Soviet Union, the ways of its development in connection with the forthcoming CPSU Central Committe Plenum and some other problems.

According to Mr. Shevardnadze, only united democratic forces can prevent the country from crisis and entering chaos and civil war. "We have no alternative as to go to the left with both the president and the government relying on the democratic forces"—said the former foreign minister.

Shevardnadze Interviewed on Stepping Up Reforms

PM2307143291 Paris LE FIGARO in French 22 Jul 91 p 4

[Interview with Former Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze by Pierre Bocev in Moscow—date not given]

[Text] [Bocev] One of the most controversial subjects in the USSR and the West at present is Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with the G7 leaders in London. What is your analysis?

[Shevardnadze] I did not know in advance what he was going to say. Moreover, it does not really matter. The essential thing is that he went to London with a program, good or bad.

At all events, the aim is not to ask for credit but to organize our cooperation with the West. We must create favorable conditions for foreign investments: That is the only way of speeding up our transition to a market economy, and we have no alternative. We need specific investments for specific programs.

[Bocev] Is that the creed of the Movement for Democracy which you have just created with eight other leaders of the Soviet "neo-liberals?"

[Shevardnadze] In short, yes. But we are only just beginning. The movement has only just been launched. It is only at the founding congress in September that we will see things more clearly. In particular, no decision has yet been made on the question of whether we will continue to be a "movement" or whether we will turn into a "party." We will probably end up with a system grouping several parties which would maintain their autonomy.

For the time being, we are receiving support from political parties, associations, movements, and even whole regions—Leningrad for instance, or Moscow. Similarly we are receiving support from whole labor collectives, the ZiL automobile factories, or the Kurchakov nuclear research institute.

It must be said that some people are hesitating. They are afraid that their party or group might be swallowed up by our movement and lose its identity. But that is a purely imaginary danger. At all events, we are negotiating with everybody, with all those who claim to follow democracy.

[Bocev] Apropos, six months after your resignation, which was intended as a warning against rising dictatorship, is that danger still as great?

[Shevardnadze] The danger is still real. Of course, some people say: "Where is this dictator? We cannot see any danger." But do not be deceived. In my country, many people want a return to the past.

Compared with the situation last December, the danger is both less and more—less because the democratic

forces have proved that they were capable of standing firm; but more in that the policy of the ultra conservatives is increasingly hardline, even within the Communist Party. In all, the reactionaries still have powerful structures whereas the democrats are still very divided.

[Bocev] What is the solution?

[Shevardnadze] The only realistic prospect is a union of democratic forces to safeguard perestroyka's achievements, to defend the freedom of individuals, to protect the emerging democratic institutions.

[Bocev] What is your movement's program?

[Shevardnadze] It will be up to the September congress to adopt it with its political, economic, and social sections. We have just started, we are working on it. In short, we want the radicalization of the reforms.

[Bocev] Those are statements which Gorbachev's USSR has been making for six years...

[Shevardnadze] There is no doubt that a great deal of time has been wasted. To give you an example—the Union treaty which is under negotiation by nine of the 15 republics. If we had proposed it three years ago, everybody would have supported it enthusiastically.

The same is true of the economic situation and the transition to the market: It should have been done when we had a store of confidence, instead of wasting time.

[Bocev] Did Mikhail Gorbachev follow the trend instead of leading it? Is he to blame for this delay?

[Shevardnadze] Yes, to some extent. But he was not alone in that. The whole leadership, including me, is responsible. We thought that society was not ready. The problems were real, but we should have done it. Time was wasted because of resistance in society and in the nomenklatura. We have a gut feeling that talking of capitalism, envisaging capitalism, is bad, that has been inculcated into us.

[Bocev] However, you are now doing it—you who spent your whole career in the Communist Party which you have only just left. Is it not natural that some people should look at such reversals with distrust when they are made by men like you or other founders of your movement?

[Shevardnazde] The problem is real. We have all sinned. We all carry the burden of our past. We have experienced Stalin, Khrushchev, Brezhnev, Andropov, and Chernenko. We made speeches, praised them. I even composed a poem praising Stalin when I was young. But we change, life requires us to do so. When you explain, people understand. I understand some reservations, but what can we do? Should we be afraid and do nothing? Certainly not!

As long as our generation is still active, our task is to clear the way for young people, give them the benefit of our experience—good and bad. Their mentality has been formed by perestroyka, but they lack experience. Be they businessmen of the new generation or unemployed, they need a political umbrella and it is up to us to create the right conditions to protect them.

[Bocev] Where exactly do you situate the "reactionaries and ultraconservatives" who are posing a threat?

[Shevardnadze] Everywhere. In the army, in the party, in the KGB. But the greatest danger comes from the fact that people's material situation is deteriorating. Social tension is rising, as are disillusion and disappointment. If this process is not stopped, I cannot rule out the fact that the people might take to the streets. That would lead to the proclamation of a state of emergency and, potentially, the emergence of a dictator.

[Bocev] That is what you said on 20 December when you announced your resignation. At the time, did you have specific indications of such a threat?

[Shevardnadze] I had reliable information. Nothing secret, just indications....

[Bocev] Perhaps a remark in confidence by Mikhail Gorbachev?

[Shevardnadze] No, nothing like that. I cannot talk about it in detail now. I will do so in my memoirs if I write them. At all events, the general trend is clear: 18 months ago, I was triumphantly confirmed in my job as foreign minister; however, in July 1990, at the CPSU congress, there were 800 votes against me. There were efforts to undermine me. Such a reversal of the situation is not spontaneous at all.

I obviously know who is behind all that, in the party and in the government. But I do not want to mention names.

[Bocev] Your opponents accuse you of having "sold off the empire," particularly with German reunification.

[Shevardnadze] If I had to do it again, I would do the same. We handled the German issue absolutely correctly. And, thank God, it went well! That was the only alternative. At the time, some people suggested preventing it. That would have had tragic consequences.

We knew that it would have to happen. But, in practice, the acceleration of the process was spontaneous; just think about the demonstrations in the GDR. No decisions were made in Moscow, I can assure you: I would have known about it.

[Bocev] What about Romania? Did the Kremlin want to get rid of Ceausescu?

[Shevardnadze] Ceausescu opposed democratization. We had very tough discussions with him on this subject, Gorbachev and I, the documents are there to prove it. But, at no time was there any intervention by us against his regime or against him personally.

[Bocev] In retrospect, at what time did the "new thinking" which you symbolized start? What led to the USSR's new foreign policy?

[Shevardnadze] We knew that it was necessary before perestroyka. Take the intervention in Afghanistan: When we learned what had happened, we said that everything had to change.

[Bocev] We?

[Shevardnadze] Mikhail Gorbachev and I. We were in the south of the country when we heard of the intervention.

[Bocev] A Politburo member and a candidate member, and you knew nothing about it! How did you find out about it?

[Shevardnadze] By radio....

TASS Reviews Soviet Central Press

LD2407063791 Moscow TASS in English 0526 GMT 24 Jul 91

["Press Review"—TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS—The press reports the completion of talks between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Mitsotakis, who is currently in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

Summing up the results of the talks, Gorbachev and Mitsotakis pointed out that the meeting laid a solid foundation for "further development of relations between the two countries, elevating them to a fundamentally new level.

This meeting, the Soviet president noted, has acquired a large dimension. The pooling of the two countries' efforts can produce substantial results in both politics and economics.

Mitsotakis confirmed the earlier extended invitation to Gorbachev to visit Greece. The president of the USSR accepted the invitation. Newspapers report that the two sides signed a package of documents, the main of which is a treaty of friendship and cooperation.

PRAVDA reports that Gorbachev met General Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, staying in Moscow on an official visit.

Soviet-U.S. military contacts develop successfully, the president of the USSR stated, pointing out that the military leaders of the two countries had made a big contribution to the success of the talks on nuclear and conventional arms and thereby to the improvement of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Gorbachev emphasises the immense importance of a strategic arms reduction treaty which is to be signed in several days' time during U.S. President George Bush's forthcoming visit to the USSR.

Peace efforts in the near and Middle East and elsewhere were also touched upon during the conversation between Gorbachev and Powell.

PRAVDA outlines a programme for the forthcoming visit of President Bush who is expected to arrive in Moscow on July 29.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA and PRAVDA report a meeting of the leaders of plenipotentiary delegations of republics to finalise the work on a draft new Union treaty at Novo-Ogaryovo. The meeting was presided over by Gorbachev. The draft treaty was discussed with due account of amendments and proposals made by republican parliaments.

PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA and KRASNAYA ZVEZDA frontpage a statement issued by the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party (CPSU) Central Committee in connection with Russian President Boris Yeltsin's decree, dated July 20, 1991, "On the termination of the activities of the organisational structures of political parties and mass social movements in state agencies, institutions and organisations in the Russian Federation".

The Politburo's statement points out that the provisions of the decree signify a clamp-down on democratic freedoms and rights of citizens, run counter to a number of articles of the constitutions of the USSR and the Russian Federation, and do not accord with the universally recognised norms set out in the international covenant on civil and political rights.

The Politburo expresses regret that the first steps by the president of the Russian Federation at this post have been marked by "anti-constitutional, anti-democractic act, and unlawful intervention in the activities of social associations".

Newspapers report that the Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee requested the Soviet parliament to commission the USSR Committee for Constitutional Compliance to examine and draw a conclusion as to whether the above-mentioned decree conforms to the Constitution and laws of the USSR.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA carries a statement by the co-chairmen and coordinators of deputies' factions and groups of the Congress of the People's Deputies of the Russian Federation (the Agrarian Union group, the Communists of Russia faction, the Otchizna and ROSSIYA groups) who believe that the Russian president's latest decree exceeds the powers of the president and virtually unlawfully introduces elements of a state of emergency.

The same newspaper runs a statement by the Politburo of the Central Committee and the Presidium of the Central Control Commission of the Russian Federation.

The statement points out that the decree sharply aggravates the political situation in the country and frustrates the nascent process of its stabilisation.

PRAVDA and TRUD report that at a regular meeting with journalists on July 23, Vitaliy Ignatenko, assistant to the USSR president and head of the presidential press service, speaking about Gorbachev's reaction to the Russian president's decree, stated: "in the present atmosphere when the movement towards accord gains in strength in this country, it is disquieting that the decree introduces elements of tension and confrontation".

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA run a statement by the Bureaux of the Party Committees of the organisations of the CPSU in the Soviet armed forces, the KGB of the USSR and USSR interior ministry troops. The statement is sharply critical of the decree and urges the people's deputies, the USSR and Russian Federation Parliaments and the USSR president "to prevent the implementation of the anti-democratic unlawful act".

Despite statements that the cold war has receded into the past, nuclear attack plans still exist and the mutual deterrent doctrine still remains in effect on both sides, PRAVDA's correspondent Vitaly Gan writes from Washington in a commentary.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carries an interview with Stanislav Shatalin, in which questions connected with the founding of a United Democratic Party were raised.

In their international topics newspapers focus on the situation in Yugoslavia and the Middle East.

Economic

Statistics Show Slump in Economic Indicators

LD1907220591 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Jul 91

[Text] The government's statistical department in Moscow says there has been a further production slump in all sectors of the Soviet economy in the six months to July. It is said GNP fell by 10 percent and national income by 12 percent compared with the same period last year, although further decline was halted in May and June with daily output kept at the level of April.

The country's foreign trade was 37 percent down because of shrinking exports and lack of foreign exchange.

Air Traffic Controllers Plan 10 Aug Strike

Causes Cited

PM1807102991 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jul 91 p 1

[O. Karmaza report: "And a Clear Sky Sometimes Does Not Gladden the Heart"]

[Text] It is naive to be an optimist in our time. But it is just the right time to be a pessimist.

After the first strike by air traffic controllers and pilots in May, which fortunately did not take place, many people were sure that rescheduling the strike for 10 August was only a symbolic gesture. Both the air traffic controllers' and the pilots' demands were basically satisfied.

But here is a piece of news: An air traffic controllers' strike has been scheduled for 10 August. The main reason for it is that there has been a delay in implementing the USSR Cabinet of Ministers' decisions. Up till now, the air traffic controllers have not been included in the list of professions with particularly harmful labor conditions (which rules out the possibility of their receiving preferential pensions). In many regional administrations wages have not been raised. The USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation has prepared a list of zones and airports, where, in the ministry's opinion, air traffic controllers have the right to take up their pensions at age 50. However, room has only been found for 20-25 percent of the total number of air traffic controllers on this list.

And the next point: Until now the majority of air traffic administration services work according to a 40-41 hour week schedule (although the Cabinet of Ministers agreed to introduce a 36 hour working week for air traffic controllers).

And finally, the last straw which prompted the "celestial switchmen" to make the decision to strike 10 August—the repressions against active participants in the action during May. Many air traffic controllers at Bykovo, Pulkovo, Khatanga, Omsk, and Rostov-na-Donu airports have been dismissed, received severe reprimands, and been deprived of awards and bonuses.

How will the emergency situation end this time? I would like to hope that 10 August will be an ordinary day. Without any kind of excesses at all. However, there is little hope of this...

Miners May Join Strike

LD1907001591 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 18 Jul 91

[Text] According to a trade union spokesman, a strike of Soviet air traffic controllers is scheduled for 10 August. They demand higher pay and better working conditions. Experts say that the strike of air traffic controllers in Moscow alone might bring up to 60 percent of Aeroflot planes to a standstill. Miners, whose strike shook the national economy last spring, might joint the labor action.

'Huge Losses' Foreseen

PM2207123191 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Jul 91 p 1

[Yekaterina Vasilchenko report under the "Workers' Movement" rubric: "And We Still Want to Fly..."]

[Text] "If our demands are not met, then no aircraft will leave the airports after 0000 on 10 August, and any aircraft still in the air will land at the nearest reserve airfields." This was the statement given to ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA by Sergey Yevsyukov, vice president of the USSR Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Air Traffic Controllers and head of flights from Domodedovo.

Air traffic controllers are again on the threshold of a strike. The reasons are that promises made by the USSR Cabinet of Ministers in May this year, again under threat of strike, have not been fulfilled. Air traffic controllers are still not included on "List No. 1"—the list of people who work in particularly harmful and difficult conditions. Certain privileges are granted to them by way of compensation. Meanwhile an air traffic controller frequently "navigates" up to 480 aircraft per shift, and this is an infernally nerve-racking and physical burden.

The maximum pay of an air traffic controller in the largest airports is 450 rubles [R]. And in smaller ones, it is R190-220. The 50-percent increase promised by the USSR Cabinet of Ministers in fact turned into a 25-percent increase in Domodedovo and a 10-percent increase in Kharkov, and there was no increase at all in a number of airports.

The problem of instituting a 36-hour working day [as published] and increasing annual leave entitlement to 33 working days has been presented to the aviation enterprises but they have neither the people nor the money to do this.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation, which has frequently stated that it is on the same side as the aviation workers' trade union as regards supporting their rights, in actual fact produced "Interim Recommendations on Earnings" on the sly, which brought to naught the implementation of USSR Cabinet of Ministers promises.

In Bykovo, Pulkovo, Rostov-na-Donu, Omsk, Syktyvkar, and Khatanga, air traffic controllers have been subjected to persecution by the administration for preparing for the strike that was expected in May, and therefore the federation of air traffic controllers trade unions is putting forward a second categorical demand—to put an end to the persecution.

The republic authorities in Kazakhstan and Turkmenia have granted air traffic controllers a number of privileges: Pension at age 50, as accepted throughout the whole civilized world, and a significant pay increase. Therefore it was decided that air traffic controllers from those places will navigate local flights but not Union ones, as a sign of solidarity with their colleagues.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation proved to be in an awkward position: The growing number of air accidents involving casualties (34 in the first six months of the year) can largely be tied up with the nonfulfillment of the air traffic controllers' demands—personnel started leaving and a back-breaking burden was placed on the shoulders of those remaining.

Any refusal to meet the demands of the strike committee can result in huge losses for the state: Even a year ago, the Ministry of Civil Aviation Main Administration for Air Traffic calculated that a two-hour strike would cause a loss of 170 million foreign currency rubles.

The air traffic controllers are hoping that the Russian Government will display an interest in their needs, as the two aforesaid republics did.

Union Official Comments

LD2307172691 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1348 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] It seems that the rumor that the country's air traffic controllers are once again intending to hold an all-Union strike in August is being confirmed. Our correspondent Yuriy Korotikov sought an explanation from Vladimir Georgiyevich Konosenko, president of the federation of USSR air traffic controllers' trade unions.

[Begin recording] [Korotkov] Vladimir Georgiyevich, in May when you were planning to hold the first strike by air traffic controllers and air crew, as a result of close and even vigorous contacts with the governments, there appeared the decision of the USSR Cabinet of Ministers no. 257 on additional measures to provide incentives and improve working conditions at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation. In principle a part of your demands was satisfied. You agreed with this, and the strike was cancelled. Now you are once again insisting that it should take place. What has brought this about?

[Konosenko] Let me say straight away that it was not cancelled but postponed until 10 August. Why until 10 August? Because we expected decision 257 to be fulfilled in full by 1 August. And we allowed ourselves 10 days in reserve, as they say, for organizational matters. Unfortunately it is not being satisfactorily fulfilled. In particular air traffic controllers who are in control of air movements have not been included on list number 1 which gives the right to retirement on pension at the age of 50. Soon the draft decision will have been lying in the office of the USSR Cabinet of Ministers for two months without further movement. Decision number 11 appeared on 29 May; it says that air traffic controllers are included in the list of harmful professions which give the right for the working week to be set at 36 hours and for additional holidays up to 30 working days. Unfortunately that decision is not being implemented at most of the country's enterprises. The main reason is that there not the resources and not the people to insure the leave and the reduced working week, but the management do not offer any program for the implementation of that decision.

Now as far as pay is concerned, we agreed to a 50 percent increase in pay but unfortunately the Ministry of Civil Aviation did not agree things with the air traffic controllers' trade union but agreed to the instruction—which is to the detriment of the air traffic controllers—let's put it that way—only with the air workers' trade union: It was circulated to the localities, and because of this decision number 257 on pay was also not implemented in full on the territory of the country.

Many of the managers of the country's air enterprises are not implementing decision number 257 of the Cabinet of Ministers, and this is leading to a sharp lowering of flight safety levels. The executive committee of the federation of trade unions of USSR air traffic controllers is therefore preparing an appeal to the prosecutor general of the USSR for the prosecutor's office to bring to account individuals guilty of failing to implement the decision in question.

[Korotkov] As I understand it the differences here are mainly as a result of muddle within your department?

[Konosenko] It's simply because of the bureaucratic system.

[Korotkov] But perhaps this problem could be solved by other methods, without resorting to strike action?

[Konosenko] the fact is that we have already been in conflict with the USSR Supreme Soviet for two years and it would have been sufficient for the USSR Supreme Soviet to adopt the decision we were seeking in May last year, and then such internal departmental differences would not have taken place. We know very well that the enterprises do not have any resources and that of course it is going to be difficult to implement this at the expense of the enterprises.

[Korotkov] Vladimir Georgiyevich, alright, say your demands are not satisified by 10 August. How do you intend to carry out this action?

[Konosenko] As of 0000 the clearance of aircraft will stop. Those aircraft that are in the air space will be landed at the nearest airport. [end recording]

Metallurgical Workers Report Problems in Sector

'Joint Action Days' Urged

PM1807120191 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Jul 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Report by Igor Minayev and V. Krasnoyarskiy, identified by caption]

[Text] [Minayev] At this very minute, as you are watching "Vremya," the "Serp i Molot" Metallurgical Plant in Moscow is very busy—just like dozens of other related plants in the metallurgical sector. Such plants operate on a continuous basis. And, unfortunately, their problems are continuous too. Metal workers have been hit hard by the miners' strikes. Because of the lack of coke, production of rolled metal alone is 8 million tonnes down on the plan figure. There's no output, nor is there any money for things like a very necessary and long-overdue modernization, social programs, or pay rises. The metal workers currently earn just over 300 rubles a month on average. And that's for working in red-hot shops where there is a real threat to people's lives and health. Nor should it be forgotten that four out of every 10 people employed in metal production are women. The crisis in the sector prompted the "Soyuzmetall" Trade Union Center to appeal to labor collectives to stage joint action days for their socioeconomic rights 19-21 July this year. [video shows N.N. Karnaukh, chairman of the "Soyuzmetall" Trade Union Center, identified by caption]

[Karnaukh] We want clear-cut guarantees from the government, and from the ministries and departments running the metallurgical complex, about employment in the sector and its long-term prospects. Second, we're worried about what will happen to unprofitable and loss-making enterprises. We want to make sure that additional social protection measures are taken.

[Minayev] Insofar as I understand it, the joint action week isn't a strike but another attempt at reaching a dialogue.

[Karnaukh] We hope that it's a civilized method of settling conflict situations—given that the government has now gone down the road of concluding pay-rate agreements with the trade unions. We hope that we'll also be able to successfully negotiate our way through the particularly acute problems currently arising in connection with the transition to the market.

Right to 'Normal' Conditions Proclaimed

PM2207160191 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 0900 GMT 22 Jul 91

[From the "Television News Service" newscast: Report by A. Vagin, identified by caption, from Kirovograd]

[Text] [Vagin] It would be hard to find a sector where the problems and paradoxes besetting our economy are as much in evidence as in the metal industry.

Metal workers are a long-suffering bunch. Despite the worst possible working conditions and the dangerous ecological situation in the areas where their enterprises are located, they have refrained from taking the extreme step of mass strikes.

Inadequately thought-out government actions in the prices and finance sphere have resulted in a sharp increase in the number of loss-making and low-profit enterprises of late.

It has to be admitted that the sector has given its all. It is on its last legs now. And, what is more, it is operating at a disadvantage to itself. Metallurgical complex enterprises still have to acquire raw and other materials at contract prices, yet they are forced to sell their output at

strictly fixed prices. The government resolution which authorizes them to sell one-third of their output at contract prices deals only partially with this injustice. It is difficult to believe, but at some enterprises equipment has not been renewed in the last 100 or even 200 years. The unchecked increases in retail prices and galloping inflation have resulted in a considerable deterioration in metal workers' living standards. Hundreds of skilled workers are out of work right now. This is a real tragedy for their families. Kirovograd metal workers, for example, have not been able to buy meat freely since 1961, that is some 30 years. The dairy product stocks in the stores are sufficient for 15-20 minutes of trading, and bread lasts one hour. Even if they had money, the workers would not be able to buy anything for themselves or their families. Metal workers, just like miners, do not live long. There are no very old men in these professions. After retirement, they fade away literally before your very eyes. At some enterprises the waiting time for housing runs to 30 years.

In view of this situation, they have a right to demand normal living and working conditions, rather than just request them.

Combine Chief Voices Concerns

PM2307153191 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 20 Jul 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Report by S. Sergeyev and V. Sosunov, identified by caption]

[Text] Some 24 enterprises in the country's metallurgical complex are concentrated in the southern Urals. Just before Metallurgy Day our correspondent visited one of them.

[Sergeyev] Chelyabinsk Metallurgical Combine: Its first output was produced 50 years ago during the Great Patriotic War. In this period the combine has become not only our country's but also the world's largest producer of high-quality grades of steel, alloys, coke, pig iron, and rolled metal. The combine is thus described as the flagship of the high-quality metallurgical industry. And the men of Chelyabinsk always try to hang on to their reputation. They have not let down the consumers of Urals metal. And the enterprise has more than 5,000 of these in various areas of the country.

[R.F. Matsutov, combine general director, identified by caption] We are having a very hard time now. First the period of spring miners' strikes did not leave us unscathed. Some 13 of the No. 7 battery's furnaces were totally ruined. The blast furnaces were damaged. Today we are in fact operating at 90-92 percent production level. It is very hard to get back on the old rails and obtain the same production volumes.

The acute scrap metal situation still persists. In the last six months we have only received four months' supply of scrap metal. How can there be any question of fulfilling the plan? As far as we know, a very large amount of scrap metal still goes abroad. If a highly strict law is not adopted prohibiting the sale abroad of our national wealth in the form of scrap metal, particularly alloyed scrap metal, for a song, over the next few years we will be obliged to stop stainless steel production.

[Sergeyev] What is your combine doing for its workers and specialists? What are its concerns? Metallurgy does not after all ultimately live by metal alone.

[Matsutov] It's above all a question of housing. We have succeeded in completely funding the amount of housing that we planned for 1991 despite the combine's highly grave financial position. We will obtain 860 apartments this year. The first of these are already inhabited on Metallurgists Day.

Current Power Industry Problems Catalogued

PM2307103191 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 18 Jul 91 First Edition p 2

[P. Slezko article: "Dictatorship of the Kilowatt. Fuel and Energy Crisis Imminent in the Country"]

[Text] It is obvious even to the nonspecialist today that in addition to the chronic shortages of food, vodka, medicines, soap, tobacco, and other more minor shortages, an event much more menacing in its destructive consequences is imminent in the country—that of a fuel and energy crisis. Signs of it were manifested in a particularly painful way in the dramatic days of the miners' strikes, which pushed the already weakened economy to the verge of crisis. As USSR Prime Minister V.S. Pavlov stated at a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, in March and April of this year production has been lost to the value of about 18 billion rubles [R] owing to strikes, and taking into account also the reduction in production in affiliated sectors. A heavy blow has been struck against ferrous metallurgy. At the time of the strikes 32 blast furnaces and several coking batteries were halted.

Had it not been possible to stop the strikes, it would have been necessary to put 60-70 coking batteries out of action owing to the lack of coking coal, and it would have taken at least a decade to restore them to use.

The destructive processes in the country's fuel and energy complex have come at the same time as a general enthusiasm for the idea of sovereignization and the yearning of several union republics individually to resolve pressing social and economic problems, having isolated themselves within the borders of their national territorial formations. One of the most dangerous side effects of what has happened is that, at the second stage of perestroyka, the economic base sectors providing people with heat, light, automobile fuel, and raw materials for the chemical and many other sectors of industry, have ended up either completely or partially rudderless.

Something which all the fraternal republics created—the Siberian Oil and Gas Complex—is collapsing before the eyes of the politicians who are searching for a way out of the crisis through destatization and privatization. In the meantime, this unique oil- and gas-producing province, which was opened up in an unprecedentedly short time through the efforts of the entire Soviet people, had for more than two decades made it possible not only to make up for the fall in oil and gas output in the old fields of Azerbaijan, Bashkiria, and Tataria, but also to ensure a stable growth of such output, in volumes satisfying the needs of the national economy with respect to these raw material resources.

The sovereign republics have so far not felt the full consequences of this collapse only because the USSR Government made a desperate attempt to satisfy, come what may, at least the minimal internal demand for liquid hydrocarbons. For the sake of this, it proved necessary to reduce its exports to foreign trading partners by a factor of two. Reducing, of course, imports of goods to the Soviet Union by the same factor.

As we know, the power available per productive unit of labor is the most generalized characteristic of a state's industrial power. Mankind has not yet learnt how to do without fuel and electric power. And for the foreseeable future we, as full and equal members of the human community, cannot escape the harsh necessity of expending 2.5-3.0 kilowatt-hours of electric power per ruble of the national income. It is time for this banal fact to be taken on board by all of those people who were to blame for there being in recent years a contraction in power industry construction, against the background of stagnation in the coal and oil and gas industries.

Take note that during the past five-year plan when perestroyka was taking place, compared to the eleventh five-year plan, a capital investment of R16 billion less has been made for the development of power engineering in comparable prices. A country which aimed to speed up economic and social development, has nevertheless failed to deliver to electrical power facility constructors 1.3 million tonnes of rolled metal, about 4 million tonnes of cement, and of the order of 1 million cubic meters of rough hewed timber and lumber. As a result of this, the necessary amount held in reserve turned out to be twice as small as the norm, which, from a practical point of view, disrupted power industry construction.

It should be pointed out that at the height of stagnation in the years 1980-1985, two to three times more power-generation capacities was put into commission than in recent years. This fact speaks for itself. If you add to this the progressive fall in coal and oil extraction, and the cessation in the growth of natural gas extraction, there is, without any exaggeration at all, a critical state of affairs developing. Those who either simply cannot imagine the fundamental significance of power engineering for the development of the economy, or who for some reason or another have an interest in the complete destabilization of the national economy, are the only people who are unable to see this. May I be so bold as to state that if there is any further destruction of the country's fuel and energy complex, and in its wake, of the metallurgical complex, no perestroyka is going to take place. It will burst like a soap bubble.

In the meantime specialists warn us: A reduction in production volume in the fuel and energy complex due to a shortage of capital investment occurring over two to three years, will only be put right by additional investments over the next eight to 10 years.

And what is happening here? The democratic Moscow City Soviet only needed three days of stormy debate a year ago to kill off the building of the Northern Heat and Electric Power Plant—which is a vitally important source of heating for the capital's development, using the most forward-looking type of fuel—natural gas. Construction has been put on ice, and at the same time the likelihood that many of the capital's neighborhoods will end up without heating is increasing.

Already several dozens of the country's largest cities are experiencing heating shortages. Many energy installations are working to the limits of their technical capacities. Owing to a most severe deficit in small boilers, steel tubing, slide valves, heat-insulating materials, and shut-off equipment, the replacement of heating systems which are in a dangerous state, and the repair and reconstruction of boiler houses, are proceeding unacceptably slowly.

In the conditions of a transition to the market economy and the destruction of many of the traditional sponsorship links between industrial enterprises and educational, health, and childrens' establishments, it has become unbelievably difficult for the latter to put the decrepit utilities networks in order off their own bat. Communal services in the cities and workers' settlements, kolkhozes and sovkhozes—everywhere where people are not in a position to ensure sound preparation for winter by obtaining the necessary materials and equipment on the basis of barter deals or direct exchange of output—are in a similar position.

A fall in the reliability of the energy and heating supply during a cold winter threatens great hardships and material losses. The events in the polar town of Norilsk during the 1989-90 winter have somehow gone "unnoticed": owing to an explosion in the pipeline feeding the city's heat and electric power plant with natural gas, a truly dramatic situation developed then. The polar city of miners and metal workers was only a few hours away from an irreversible shutdown and the ensuing destruction of productive capital worth many millions, and its social infrastructure from being frozen in the literal sense of the word. An awesome danger is stalking thousands of our cities and villages because of the energy system's chronic overloading. So, if, for example, power reserves in the world's developed countries reach 20-30 percent, in the USSR in recent years they have, despite the norm being 13-15 percent, stayed in reality at a level of only

four to five percent. A most tense situation has developed in the energy supply to Transcaucasian republics, the North Caucasus, the Ukraine, the Central Nonchernozem Zone of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic], the Lower Volga Region, Central Asia, the Buryat ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic], and Chita Oblast.

The negative attitude of the so-called "public at large" toward electric power engineering, which is often supported by populists from the local organs of Soviet power, has lead to a halt in planning and construction at 64 power stations with a total capacity of about 160 million kilowatts.

As early as the end of last year, people were judging the situation which had developed in power engineering to be catastrophic. But at that time they could not even have dreamed that in the Transcaucasus itself it would be exacerbated to an incredible extent by the premeditated actions of extremists, which simply cannot be called anything other than sabotage. All the more often, attempts are being made with the connivance of the central authorities to turn energy and transport into an instrument of political pressure on Georgia's "recalcitrant" neighbors from South Ossetia. Such a thing did not happen in our country even in the darkest years.

It has so happened that during perestroyka's sixth year practically all the national economy's base sectors have become sore points in the economy. The May presidential decree "On Urgent Measures to Ensure the Stable Working of the National Economy's Basic Sectors" has changed little for the better. Several Union republics' supreme soviets are not in any hurry to declare as criminal and punishable by criminal law any inflammatory actions by individual politicians whose aim is to premeditatedly provoke failure in production. But those figures who are ready to plunge the country into a bacchanalia of strikes even in the depths of winter's cold weather, are not only quietly prospering, but receiving ever new powers. At least this is what happened to the organizers of the first political strike, which several representatives of the interregional deputies group tried to provoke in December 1989 on the eve of the Second Congress of People's Deputies.

Although you have to get sleighs ready during the summer, you can neither hear nor see anybody busting a gut in seeing to everyday concerns in preparation for the coming winter. They are all occupied with big-time politics and making prognoses about the advantages of the forthcoming privatization. In the meantime the danger of major disruptions in the energy supply to all the sovereign republics of the renewed Union grows with each day. Let's hope that what shook the United States back in 1965 does not happen here during the coming winter. The commission which was created to look into the reasons for the terrible accident then, made the following conclusion: It is necessary to centralize the management for the electrical power engineering systems' development and operation. It turned out that this wise decision was not so simple to implement in the capitalist world, for it contradicted the principle of "free enterprise."

It is not at all with the intention of frightening anyone off, that I reminded you of this tragedy. However, I would like to hope that reminding people of the American power disaster, will bring at least a flash of awareness to some of those "reformers" who have lost a sense of proportion and who are today already prepared to divide up along the national borders not only the railroads, but also the main pipelines, the electric power supply lines, and much else, without which the existence of a unified multinational state would be a fiction. The framework of the national economic complex which has been built up over the decades is collapsing. And even the most radical abstract theorists need to possess a lively imagination if in such circumstances they want to count on the economy's stabilization and even on growth in production volumes. This is an utopian situation. But the reality is that in a few months' time winter will objectively and impartially check up on the preparation of a country which is actively engaged in perestroyka.

Agriculture

Harvest Forecasts, Statistics Viewed

PM2307141591 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 91 p 1

[Feature on harvest by Yu. Lvov and O. Khvastunova: "Eat Bread and Water, Yasha, There Is No Milk"]

[Text] Government resolutions could perfectly well be published under the rubric "Phrenologist's Notes." At the end of last week a document was published entitled "On Measures To Insure the Coordinated Actions of the Union and Republican Organs in Forming State Grain Stocks From the 1991 Harvest." That means it will soon be fall.

The state proposes to settle accounts with the countryside for above-plan grain with passenger cars, washington and sewing machines, construction materials, coal, and refrigerators—from the August market fund. Quite right, why do city dwellers need refrigerators if the villages do not bring in the harvest?!

And so it is clear it will soon be fall. But what awaits us in the winter?

Forecast of N. Averyanov, USSR Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food

Grain

This year we shall harvest 195-200 million tonnes of grain—compared with 218 million last year. Areas sown to crops have not been reduced but the weather has let us down. The drought has reduced the harvest in many grain regions of the Urals, Transurals, Kazakhstan, and Southern regions.

It is clear that we will not manage to avoid grain imports, but a general trend toward their reduction has already emerged. We no longer receive our former profit from the import of oil and the extraction of other raw material products is declining. The transition of former CEMA countries to accounts in hard currency with us is also reducing the country's import potential.

Stockraising Products

A poor situation has taken shape with regard to meat and milk and there is a reduction in the population because of the lack of feed. In the first half of the year the decline in production was 13 percent. A certain stabilization is now appearing, but the indicators will still be worse than last year's.

As before, meat and meat products will be bought for all-union consumers—large cities, the army, and so forth, and many republics will buy butter. It is complicated for us to judge the size of these purchases, usually currency has accumulated in the union organs, now they have been decentralized into various regions and even individual enterprises can buy food for their workers abroad.

Poultry

In this sector we have well-tuned manufacturing chains and production capacities which are not inferior to foreign ones. In addition poultry provide the biggest yield of meat per unit of feed, which is particularly important with today's shortage of grain feed. I think we can link our hopes with this sector.

Potatoes

This spring we had to import potatoes from Poland and Germany. We hope that the present big harvest will make it possible to avoid purchases in 1992. Although potatoes are a crop which is hard to predict, and rain may flood them during the harvest, in which case a considerable proportion of the harvest will remain in the ground.

We shall not manage without the city dwellers' assistance: One must understand that in the harvesting toil season "the day feeds the year," especially in our grave situation. If the shipment and storage of potatoes are coordinated between the republics and the cities, we shall not remain without the "second grain."

Vegetables and Fruit

There will be more vegetables on our tables, the hot weather has favored them. On the other hand at this time of year there have always been Bulgarian tomatoes in the stores—now there are none, just as there is no other fruit and vegetable produce from the former CEMA countries. Previously over 1 million tonnes of fruit would be bought abroad, this year only Cuba will deliver us about 250,000 tonnes of citrus fruit. There will probably be Georgian mandarins—they are not very competitive on the overstocked Western market and in addition Georgia needs raw material and fuel from other republics.

Nonetheless it will be easier to do without citrus fruit and exotic fruit than sugar, on which the entire food industry rests.

Sugar

Its consumption has dropped from 47.2 kg per person in 1987 to 44 kg in 1990. This year the sugar beet harvest was in excess of last year's and a large quantity of raw sugar was bought in Cuba. But in the immediate future there is no question of repealing the universal sugar coupons.

In Addition

Coupons remain for tobacco: Although many factories have opened after repair, they lack paper for filters and other tobacco production components.

Various plant oils for food and technical needs will continue to be purchased. [Averyanov forecast ends]

State Committee for Statistics Is Empowered to State

Throughout the country as a whole 6.2 million tonnes of meat were produced in the first half of the year—12 percent less than in the similar period last year, and 23.2 million tonnes or 10 percent less milk was produced.

In the period from 1 January through 1 July 9,156,000 tonnes of livestock and poultry (87 percent of last year's figure), 35,085,000 tonnes of milk (87 percent), and 24,289 million eggs (89 percent) were purchased on the farms.

Food industry enterprises produced some 3,312,000 tonnes of meat, which is 87 percent of last year's figure, 382,000 tonnes of butter (86 percent), 229,000 tonnes of cheese (85 percent), 10,403,000 tonnes of wholemilk produce (91 percent), 1,806,000 tonnes of confectionery (96 percent), 1,176,000 tonnes of sausage (90 percent), and 1,189,000 tonnes of vegetable oil (99 percent).

As a whole prices for food in state trade compared with the same period last year (the second quarter) have increased 130 percent and they have increased most for meat products (170 percent), first-category beef (280 percent), cooked sausage (210 percent), fish products (170 percent), bread products 9150 percent), sugar, butter, and potatoes (160 percent), cabbage (210 percent), and large onions (250 percent).

The index of prices for output sold by agricultural enterprises was 161 percent in the first quarter compared with the same period last year.

Prices at the country's collective farm markets fell somewhat in June compared with previous months and the volume of sales is 2.3 percent of the total quantity of output sold.

But Meanwhile

Forecasts are all very well but we know that the prospects for the harvest in the USSR are a far from agronomic topic. Rain at the wrong time can of course muddle the cards but so to an even greater degree can the inept actions of the authorities, the lack of commitment of suppliers, and God knows what else.

The harvesting has begun in the South Ukraine. And... it is already close to early completion. According to an UKRINFORM correspondent the Lisichansk oil refinery, which supplies this region with fuel, has been responsible since the start of the year for a supply shortfall of over 200,000 tonnes of its A-76 gasoline, the most "current" in the countryside.

Agricultural Developments for 11-17 July

LD1807050191

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR from 11 to 17 July. Source and GMT time of broadcast are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

11 July

A report from the Ukraine: The first 250,000 tonnes of grain of the new harvest have arrived at grain reception enterprises and elevators in the republic. Despite the vagaries of the weather, the grain harvest is higher in some places than it was last year. In the Crimea, for instance, more than 40 quintals of barley per hectare are being threshed. (Moscow all-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian, 1000)

12 July

The last combines have left the wheat fields of the Fergana Valley, reports our Uzbekistan correspondent. The latest harvest is over, incidentally, bring no small joy to the agricultural workers in Andizhan Oblast. Almost 37 quintals of grain have been threshed [nakrupno]. (Moscow all-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian, 0204)

13-16 July

No fileworthy items monitored.

17 July

By the middle of this month, social farms in Lithuania have laid in 69 percent of hay, 70 percent of haylage, and 17 percent of silage intended for this year's wintering. Six and a half quintals of coarse and succulent fodder per animal in fodder units have been prepared, or seven-tenths of a quintal less compared with the same period last year. (Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian, 1300)

Farmers have already finished threshing of grain crops on 1 million hectares in Stavropol Kray; more than 500,000 tonnes of grain have already been dispatched.

In Volgograd Oblast farmers have threshed grain crops on 1 million hectares and received in excess of 2.1 million tonnes of grain. This year winter crops produced on average more than 21 quintals per hectare, and in a number of farms this figure reaches 30 quintals per hectare. (Moscow All-Union Radio First Radio-1 Network in Russian, 1600)

Speculators Take Kuban Grain From 'Your Tables'

PM2307135191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jul 91 First Edition p 1,2

[K. Aksenov report: "Will Kuban's Grain Not Evaporate? While the Authorities Are Pondering, Speculative Dealers Are Emptying Our Tables"]

[Text] Krasnodar—A. Petrik, chairman of the Bryukhovetskiy Rayon Soviet, was not in a very good mood. Before I came in, a smart balding man with a heavy attache case had visited him. From it came the clink of... bottles. Having introduced himself as a broker from one of the Russian exchanges, he proposed straight off to buy an unlimited quantity of wheat. To begin with, he named a price: 2,000 rubles [R] per tonne.

"This is several times more than the state pays," he stressed.

"At what price will your firm resell our grain?" Aleksandr Grigoryevich asked. "And to whom?"

"It depends on the demand," the visitor answered. "A deal with foreign partners is possible. Today we all need hard currency. However, even in our country it will be rather difficult to get grain this year, I think."

"How will the people be fed? Or are you most concerned about getting a large sum of money, and to hell with Russia?"

Not expecting such a turn of events, the broker ran out of the office. The deal was not made.

"The businessman from the new school probably sees me as a conservative," Aleksandr Grigoryevich explained later. "After all, I refused millions. How many traders like this are there roaming around the farms and the rayon? The are all set to buy up all the grain as it stands and in addition they do not care at what price. You look at all this and it makes you feel terrible. Russia will slide into famine this way. The main thing is that we do not know where our produce is disappearing to."

Using the powers vested in him, A. Petrik naturally opposes all possible grain speculation. During the years of his leadership, there has not been a single case of the rayon's being in arrears to the state. This year too the top priority is to dispatch the high-grade wheat to the elevators.

"If we had been given plant protection agents at the right time," Aleksandr Grigoryevich complained," then a

tonne of grain more per hectare could have been obtained. Although even now we are gathering 45 quintals on average."

Other Kuban leaders also believe that the kray could have had over 50 quintals of wheat per hectare now. But there were no herbicides when they were needed.

All the same, according to specialists' calculations, the gross wheat harvest will exceed 5.5-6 million tonnes. All forces have been dispatched into the fields to gather it. Interruptions in fuel supply have upset the routine, there are insufficient spare parts and storage batteries. In a word, chronic ailments are playing up. But people are convinced that they will harvest the grain. It is another thing that is worrying: How to dispose of what is called the gold of the south—wheat—in the most useful way for the fatherland?

"You get the impression that only the traders need our grain, and not the country," are the offended words you can often hear from the rural areas.

Recently I. Silayev, chairman of the Russian Council of Ministers, came to visit the kray. At his meeting in the kray soviet, I asked how the Russian Government intends to interest the peasant in such a way so that he surrenders his grain to the state? And one of those present asked Ivan Stepanovich straight out: Why is the state procurement system so disadvantageous for the peasant and why does the state frequently deceive him, as was the case last year? Having turned in hundreds of thousands of tonnes of excellent grain on an exchange basis, they left their cattle without feed. So there's an example for you of striking a deal and trusting your partners.

What did the Russian prime minister say in response? He said that it is time you though for yourselves about mixed feed instead of hoping that it will be supplied from the center. Is that reasonable? If concentrates are needed, prepare them, and if you like, take the surplus to the elevators and conclude barter deals.

It would seem that this is in the spirit of the times. But there is one hitch. Few places in the country have wheat like in Kuban. These are strong varieties without which you cannot bake good bread or make confectionary. So you might say the local wheat is the asset of the republic and the whole country.

I have frequently had to write with sadness on the pages of PRAVDA about the difficult fate of the wheat of the south. In the past five years, the Kuban inhabitants have sold almost 10 million tonnes of grain. It would seem that the state must give them a vested interest them in supplying grain. But, as usual, the authorities were late in adopting a decision and incentives using rubles, currency, and then so-called "Harvest-90" checks did not work.

And after all, Kuban could sell approximately an extra million tonnes of wheat. A whole million! That is so many rolls, pastries and bread sticks. The state was not in a hurry to take the grain. It did not find the stimulus that would make the peasant open his grain bins.

However, people did not grieve about this in the kray. They said the million will not be lost. We will hand it over to the livestock units. The production and sale of meat, milk, and other animal produce will be increased. There is a certain logic in this. But economics has stifled logic again. It turned out that it is not profitable to use the grain as feed for bulls and pigs.

So the million "evaporated." Where to? Of course, you could carry out audits, but you would never sort it out. After all, as is known, we are entering the market. The farmer is lord. And then there is barter. You have to give Kuban wheat in order to obtain everything—construction materials, fuel, spare parts, equipment, metal. Without food products you cannot even get hold of materials that are held in stock. The enterprises hold on to their resources and impudently—there is no other word for it—dictate the conditions. The barter merry-go-round has reached such proportions that, to my mind, the shelves of stores in Moscow, Leningrad, and other large cities, will soon be empty.

The Kuban inhabitants, I. Silayev said, must prepare their own mixed feed.

Of course this would be as easy as pie. And then you would not have to get involved with transportation. There is a question, however: What will they use in the Nonchernozem zone to bake rolls? A sensible farmer will not let his priceless grain which is added to bread to make it better, go into feed. The sharp entrepreneurs who roam about the Kuban villages and settlements, proposing incredible prices for local grain, understand this. And yet the statesmen cannot understand it.

V. Chernoivanov, USSR minister of agriculture and food, also visited the kray. At a press conference, I asked him the same question as I asked Ivan Stepanovich. The minister answered: The Kuban grain must be completely bought up and in exchange they must be given mixed feed at a mutually advantageous price. That all would seem to be correct. And now the country's government has adopted measures to stimulate the sale of grain. But people have their doubts: Will they not be deceived again? Remember the enthusiasm with which the incentives for agricultural workers were greeted last year for above-plan sales of grain. The Kuban inhabitants received "checks" to buy scare goods to the tune of R500 million. And what happened? The new harvest is already being threshed yet at the moment only one-tenth of this sum has been turned into goods.

Neither a tax in kind nor the state order will resolve our food problems. We need a long-term efficiently functioning contract for cooperation between the state and the countryside. The city supplies the countryside with all it needs for production and a comfortable life. The peasant provides the whole country with food and raw materials. And that is all it takes.

We hope that the market itself will regulate all the ties. Maybe that is what will happen in time. But we need this today. What do we see? A rich harvest and empty counters. And generous speculative dealers. Where do they get their millions from? What are they planning to do with the grain?

With our grain, taken from your tables and ours.

Scientific

Cosmonauts Begin Extravehicular Activity

LD1907121391 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1134 GMT 19 Jul 91

[Excerpts] A few minutes ago, cosmonauts Anatoliy Artsebarskiy and Sergey Kirkalev started working in open space again. As we have promised, here is a report from the Flight Control Center by our correspondent Vladimir Bezyayev.

[Bezyayev] Good afternoon, dear comrades. [passage omitted] The cosmonauts opened the hatch 15 minutes earlier than scheduled, while they were outside the visibility zone of the Soviet Union. This shows that many things have become routine; crews are gaining more trust, and they plan their operations themselves. So this is the fourth EVA [Extravehicular Activity] for this crew, and the second within the framework of the Sofora experiment for erecting large-dimension structures on the outer surface of the station. [passage omitted]

Assemble Object Outside Mir Complex

LD1907205491 Moscow TASS in English 1953 GMT 19 Jul 91

[By special correspondent from the Space Mission Control Center]

[Text] Moscow July 19 TASS—Soviet cosmonauts Anatoliy Artsebarskiy and Sergey Krikalev today carried out a regular phase of work under the programme of the Sofora experiment.

They began to assemble a 14-metre-long truss structure on the outer surface of the orbital complex Mir.

The crew began the spacewalk at 1410 Moscow time. The cosmonauts took structural elements and equipment intended for assembly from the airlock compartment and by means of a telescopic jib shifted them to the astrophyscial module Kvant.

Then on a platform installed during the previous spacewalk, the cosmonauts fixed an erection site and building ways that are necessary for the fixation of the structural elements of the tower of trusses during the assembly process.

The first section of the truss tower, pre-assembled by the cosmonauts inside the orbital complex, was inside the building ways.

During further work in the open space, the mission commander and flight engineer assembled two more sections. The formation of rigid permanent joints was ensured due to the heating of the couplings of thermomechanical joints by means of four assembly-and-heating devices.

The two cosmonauts worked in outer space for five hours and 28 minutes.

The next phase of the Sofora experiment will be carried out on July 23.

Work Shown, Financial Needs Noted

LD1907221591 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Jul 91

[Video report by A. Gerasimov from Flight Control Center; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Our cosmonauts have been working today on the outside of the station. Let me remind you that the world's first spacewalk took place on 18 March 1965 and was made by Cosmonaut Aleksey Leonov. It now seems that building work in space makes progress more quickly than on earth. [video shows control room at Flight Control Center, then long shots from external camera of cosmonauts working outside of spacecraft, mixed with close-ups and medium shots of the same equipment being assembled in a zero- gravity simulator]

[Gerasimov] Whereas on earth there is a strict rule that one should not stand under the boom of a crane, in space it is quite different. Flight Engineer Sergey Krikalev, acting crane-driver, used the boom to deliver his commander, Anatoliy Artsebarskiy, exactly to the spot where the work was to be done, along with the assembly platform. And while the previous extravehicular activity [EVA] had been used to install the foundation for the Sofora girder structure, today the cosmonauts installed a little assembly facility like this on the Kvant module. It will be used to assemble the elements of the new structure in space. This is just as elegant as the Flight Control Center's attempt to adapt to the new far-from-easy market conditions.

[Flight Director V. Solovyev] Our whole organization and structure for controlling complex space apparatus amounts above all to a data bank and an information processing bank, plus a huge quantity of communications. We are now attempting, on the basis of this data bank, to organize some kind of, let's call it, exchange structure. In that sense maybe—maybe—we can try to raise—well, maybe not raise but actually earn money to continue our work in space. [video shows further shots of EVA and work in simulator]

[Gerasimov] It goes without saying that this is a rather paradoxical situation. What the cosmonauts have been doing in orbit today is unique, dealing above all with new materials and technologies which could be profitably traded. Yet at the same time our leading space firms

are forced to earn cash on the side. Who will find a rational way out of this situation?

Anatoliy Artsebarskiy and Seergey Kruikalev are next due to work in open space on 23 July.

'Resource-F' Satellite Launched 23 July

LD2407090591 Moscow TASS in English 0757 GMT 24 Jul 91

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS—A Resource-F satellite wis launched in the Soviet Union by a Soyuz booster rocket on Tuesday.

The satellite carries equipment designed to carry out various- scale multi-band and spectrum-band photography to carry on the study of terrestiral natural resources for the benefit of various branches of the Soviet economy and accomplishment of tasks pertaining to ecology and international cooperation.

The satellite was put into an orbit with the following parameters:

—Initial orbital period—88.7 minutes,

—Maximum distance from the earth's surface (in apogee)—

261 kilometres,

—Minimum distance from the earth's surface (in perigee)—

195 km,

—Orbital inclination—82.3 degrees.

The on-board equipment is functioning normally.

Upon the accomplishment of the mission, the exposed film will be handed over to the state research and production centre Priroda of the USSR State Committee for Geodesy for processing and subsequent distribution of the obtained information among users.

Military

Shlyaga, Yazov at Conference on Political Work

PM2307152591 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 91 First Edition p 2

[Report by Colonel F. Semyanovskiy: "Seeing Priorities"]

[Text] A rally of chiefs of the military-political departments of formations, military commissariats, and military academies and institutions of the Moscow, Leningrad, and Volga-Ural Military Districts took place 16 and 17 July at Moscow Military District's Kantemir Guards Tank Division.

Colonel General N. Shlyaga, chief of the USSR Armed Forces Main Military-Political Directorate and USSR first deputy minister of defense, delivered a report on pressing problems of military-political work at the contemporary stage.

The report primarily focused attention on elaborating a common understanding of military-political organs' tasks and practically implementing state policy in the spheres of the country's defense and servicemen's education and social protection. Military-political organs' activities to develop troops' spiritual potential, tighten up military discipline, and influence the combat readiness and combat effectiveness of subunits and units were thoroughly analyzed.

Specific recommendations were formulated concerning work in the sphere of interethnic relations, collaboration with public organizations and movements, further improving political training and political information, and other priority areas.

Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Yazov, USSR minister of defense, spoke at the rally. He described the role and tasks of military-political work in conditions of the orientation of troop training toward predominantly qualitative parameters and the increase in the importance of the human factor's role in military organizational development.

Yazov Agrees to Civilian Use of Airport

OW2407081191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The USSR Defence Minister Dmitriy Yazov has agreed to the use of a military air base near the port city of Nakhodka as an international airport, as follows from a broadcast by the Tikhy Okean (Pacific Ocean) radio station in Vladivostok.

The absence of an international airport is a brake on efforts to open a free economic zone in Nakhodka. A final decision on the handover of the air base [is] to be made by the USSR Cabinet of Ministers.

Reporters Visit Leningrad Submarine Scrapyard

LD2307111191 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 22 Jul 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Now about something that can be put to use with great advantage, quickly and without great investment. But this is hampered by the secret locks of officialdom. Here is report brought in by our film crew from the Leningrad naval base.

[Video report by unidentified correspondent, standing at quayside with several submarines tied up in background] I don't think one could amaze anyone with a graveyard for old cars or locomotives now; but I think that many of

you will be seeing a graveyard for submarines for the first time. It was founded in 1982, here at the Kronshtadt quayside. Since then it has regularly been augmented with the once-terrible submarines. These 11 have already had their day; the ultimate fate of any ship is well known—either they cut it up for scrap, or they leave it to rot away quietly somewhere along the shore. But the boats really are gold—the metal they are made of is a saleable commodity on the foreign markets, and our metallurgists, too, are on short rations at the moment. Meanwhile, here at legendary Kronshtadt, the mountain of floating scrap continues to grow, as a symbol of inefficiency, lack of inspiration, and laziness. While the mountain is growing on the one hand, on the other it is reducing. Some time in the spring, the number of boats here at the quay was reduced by one. Only these ropes and a buoy show where the submarine is. Some 1,300 tonnes of metal has gone under water. Would that the other boats, including, as it turned out, four for which a contract of sale to Finland has been concluded, do not end up underneath such buoys.

[A.P. Slavgorodskiy, captioned as deputy commander of the Leningrad naval base, interviewed in office] The matter of the other boats has not so far been settled, but we are at the stage of deciding to hand over the scrap metal to the ship conversion base of Vtorchermet. We can do it, but the fact is that the capacity of Votrchermet at present does not enable them to process even what we handed over 5-7 years ago. In order to get things moving, we need to combine the efforts of the Ministry of the Merchant Marine, the Navy, and the Ministry of Non-Ferrous Metallurgy, so that we can made a joint effort finally to form enterprises which are capable of turning our ships into metal, baling it, and then selling the baled scrap abroad.

[Correspondent] Meanwhile, submarines and ships weighing many tonnes are rusting away for years and sinking at the quaysides.

Obituary of Retired General A.G. Dvornichenko

PM2307095991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jul 91 First Edition p 4

[Obituary of A.G. Dvornichenko]

[Excerpts] Lieutenant General (Retired) Aleksandr Grigoryevich Dvornichenko has died after a severe illness. He devoted his entire life to the selfless service of his socialist motherland, the Soviet people, and the Communist Party, which he joined in 1963.

A.G. Dvornichenko was born into a worker's family in Kharkov on 10 June 1936. [passage omitted]

[Signed] D.T. Yazov, M.A. Moiseyev, K.A. Kochetov, N.I. Shlyaga, Yu.P. Maksimov, V.I. Varennikov, I.M. Tretyak, Ye.I. Shaposhnikov, V.N. Chernavin, V.M. Shuralev, V.M. Arkhipov, V.P. Mironov, V.A. Achalov, N.V. Chekov, V.L. Govorov, V.F. Yermakov, Yu.A. Yashin, A.M. Makashov, L.S. Mayorov, A.G. Aleksandrenko, V.K. Konstantinov.

Soviet Presence in Baltic Republics Defended

PM2307102991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jul 91 Second Edition p 1

[Viktor Shirokov article under the "Topical Theme" rubric: "Chosen Direction"]

[Text] This July there are some people who really do not want to recall events that occurred 51 years ago. That was when Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia proclaimed themselves Soviet socialist republics.

There have always been attempts to rewrite history—depending on who is in power. Such attempts are also being made now. However, it is impossible to expunge half a century from the people's memory or cancel out entirely what they have achieved or the social gains that they made during those years. Especially since the direction of movement chosen by the Baltic region's working people was certainly no accident.

Some researchers today assert categorically and peremptorily that Soviet power was brought to the Baltic at gunpoint by the Red Army and Stalin's minions like Zhdanov. Is that so? Back in the days when the tsars called the Baltic "St. Petersburg's soft spot," the workers' mute discontent at their complete lack of rights and the yawning social gulf between rich and poor occasionally erupted into spontaneous rebellions and uprisings. The Baltic social democrats found a firm and reliable support among the working masses. Incidentally, in 1917 that "soft spot" proved to be sealed tight against tsarism—the socialist revolution happened in Reval (Tallinn) 2-3 days earlier than in Petrograd.

Yes, in 1918-1919 Soviet power in the Baltic republics was crushed under the boots of the German interventionists, the White Guards, and the Entente, but the seed of hope had already sprouted in the workers' souls and could not be destroyed by the succeeding decades of bourgeois dictatorships of Smetona, Ulmanis, and Piats. In 1940 that plant put forth new shoots and Soviet power flourished again.

Of course, we should not resort to deception today—Stalin had his own plans for using the Baltic bridgeheads. He did not particularly stand on ceremony with the Lithuanians, Latvians, and Estonians (but then with whom did he stand on ceremony?). The brutal postwar deportations are evidence of that. And the presence of the Red Army really did contribute to the fact that the people's revolutions were now drowned in blood, as had often happened before—for example, with the Estland Workers Commune.

When talking today about the "export of revolution" to the Baltic, some people cite ostensibly convincing figures: Only about 150 Communists emerged alive from the bourgeois underground in Estonia in 1940, for example. What could such forces do? they say. I discussed this theme with the well known academic Doctor of Historical Sciences V. Maamiagi.

Communists, he noted, chose at that time a very correct and precise tactic. Despite their apparent lack of numerical strength, they were able to base themselves on the class organizations of the working people—workers and rural trade unions. On the initiative of the Communist Party an electoral bloc of the democratic strata of the population was formed—the "Union of the Working Population of Estonia." Its program was approved by 618 different organizations and 304 popular assemblies.

Therefore, Soviet power was not imposed by force in the Baltic—it came about naturally and answered the working people's moods.

The spiral of history often repeats itself, although the path that it traces must develop onward into the future and must not turn back on itself and retreat into the past. The social revenge which those to whom Soviet power was always anathema would like to exact today can hardly succeed in its "pure form." No matter what radiant colors some publicists use to paint the bourgeois and capitalist past, the historical memory of the workers and peasants is quite strong. You cannot pull the wool over their eyes indefinitely—the ideas of social justice and equal starting positions for all without exception and the ideas of the international unity of the working people will prevail sooner or later. And those are the very ideals that Soviet power stands for.

Kremlin Outlines Cost of Republics Leaving Union

LD2307110491 Tallinn Estonian Radio in English 2030 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] The Kremlin has calculated the costs of some republics leaving the Soviet Union.

In a Soviet Government document entitled: On the Economic Consequences of the Possible Secession of Some Republics From the Soviet Union, the costs to both the Union and various republics are laid out. Among the republics considered to be potential leavers are the three Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, as well as Moldova, Georgia, and Armenia. These are the same six republics who have refused to have anything to do with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's new Union treaty.

Listed among the losses to the Union are 2 percent of territory, 7.5

of population, 7 percent of gross national product, 7.1

of industrial output, and 8.2

of agricultural output.

The document also lists the advantages to the republics of staying in the Union, including a large choice of agricultural products, common energy and transportation systems, and a high level of economic integration.

Officials in Estonia say that the most surprising thing about the document is not what it says but the mere fact that it exists at all.

Military Exercises in Estonia, Latvia

LD2307163991 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1400 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] According to the person on duty at the Baltic Military District, headquarters exercises are taking place at the moment on the territory of Estonia and Latvia. They include involvement of military units. According to information from Colonel Federko, deputy military commissar of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic, the exercises are taking place only at headquarters without any involvement of soldiers on the territory of Estonia. However, the Baltic News Service reports that two soldiers have been seen today in the center of Tallinn in splotchy camouflage uniforms, carrying short submachine guns. The information agency also adds that, according to unknown sources, a paratroop unit has been brought into Tallinn, with unclear aims. However, the military commissariat said that there are only 10 soldiers from the Viljandi paratroop regiment staying at the draft center in Tallinn.

Estonia

Municipal Authorities Threaten To Join RSFSR

OW2407022691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1800 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairpersons of the municipal councils of the three principal towns in the north-east of Estonia, Narva, Sillamae and Kohtla-Jarve, have sent a memorandum today to the chairman of the Republic's Supreme Council, Arnold Ruutel, and the prime minister, Edgar Savisaar, demanding negotiations to give the north-eastern region a special status within Estonia.

"If such negotiations do not take place, the conflict between the north-east and the Republic may become unresolvable," the memorandum says and reminds that at the March 17 referendum the majority of the population of the three towns (the towns are mainly populated by non-Estonians—BF [BALTFAX]) voted in favour of the preservation of the Soviet Union. The document also emphasises that "there are growing sentiments in the region in favour of proclaiming it a separate republic and joining the Russian Federation".

The memorandum was published after today's session of the municipal council of Narva.

The municipal councils of Narva, Sillamae and Kohtla-Jarve have repeatedly declared many of the laws of the Estonian Republic to be invalid in their territory and insisted that the Constitution of the USSR was still in force there.

The three chairpersons hold that the region is entitled to take its own decisions concerning its development, have a budget of its own and "use the legislation of the Estonian Republic in accordance with the specific character of the region".

Prime Minister Savisaar was invited to the Narva session, but did not come, sending Artur Kuznetsov there instead, the minister dealing with interethnic relations, who said in his speech that the "Narva crisis" had been caused by the conflict between the Republic's government, which had begun work on turning the Narva region into a free economic zone, and the Supreme Council of Estonia, which was virtually preventing it.

Foreign Ministry Views U.S. Baltics Statement

OW2407024891 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1800 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian Foreign Ministry has made an inquiry at the U.S. Department of State in connection with the interview given by the naval attache of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, Sergey Ionov, to the NEDELYA weekly No. 21 for this year, in which he refused to make an assessment of the events in the Baltics, describing them as "your internal problems".

The information department of the Estonian Foreign Ministry has informed BF [BALTFAX] that the document emphasises that "such statements contradict the traditional United States policy of non-recognition of the military occupation of the Baltic countries and their forcible incorporation in the USSR". They are also "very different from the United States position stated at the G-7 summit in London and at the recent session of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe".

Principles Devised for Trade With USSR

OW2407041991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian Government prepared suggestions for trade with the USSR from 1992.

In an interview with "BALTFAX" the Estonian minister for material resources, Aleksander Sikkal, suggested that trade should be based on clearing. Thus the price of goods and raw materials would be closer to those on the world market.

In the next few days, after consultation with Lithuania and Latvia, the proposal will be handed over to a group of experts from the Soviet delegation working on the negotiations with Estonia. The proposal of changing to 'clearing' economics was suggested in June and supported in a declaration by the Baltic Soviet, which contains representatives from all 3 Baltic Supreme Soviets.

However, according to A. Sikkal, the main problem regarding the trade agreement is the vagueness of the subject of the agreement. At the moment it is uncertain how power will be divided between the centre and the republic, "exactly who we are conducting discussions with." For this reason the concrete trade agreement will not be devised before autumn when the Union treaty is cleared up.

A. Sikkal also mentioned that although the USSR has confirmed that its relations with 6 republics will be similar to those with foreign countries. He regards this as being extremely difficult.

"This means transferring all our present direct economic links into the hands of a foreign trade association, payments through Vneshekonombank etc, this means creating an enormous technical task for ourselves," said the Estonian minister for material resources.

Finnish Minister's News Conference Noted

LD2307110691 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1700 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] Finnish Transportation Minister Ole Norrback has been on a four-day visit to the Baltic states. Today he gave a news conference to Estonian journalists. Urmas Loit reports:

[Loit] The Lithuanian-Polish border post is the bottleneck which is preventing the Via Baltica main road from being put to use. This was stated by Finnish Transportation Minister Ole Norrback at a press conference today. In order to alleviate the situation one has to hold talks with the Lithuanians. The Tallinn-Vilnius road itself is in quite a good state for motoring, in the opinion of the Finnish transportation minister. The roadside infrastructure needs to be improved. The volume of international haulage will increase on the Via Baltic route as the volume of trade increases. The Tallinn-Vilnius road would be of interest also as a tourist route. According to Estonian Transportation Minister Tiit Vahi, the Via Baltica route is the main subject of discussion with the Finnish transportation minister. Using the road to its full, planned capacity is also economically profitable for Finland because that way one can get into Europe by motor transportation. For this reason Finland is willing to finance the building of the route to a certain degree. The transportation ministers announced that specific agreements have been reached.

During the meetings at the Estonian Transportation Ministry, at the Estonian Telecommunications Enterprise, and with Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar, developments in rail transportation and telecommunications were also dealt with, and there was a discussion on general political issues. Ole Norrback noted that the Estonian decision to give preference to the development of the communications systems is a correct step; it will facilitate the resolution of other issues.

Today, the Finnish transportation minister returned home.

First-Half Economic 'Sharp Slump' Reported

OW2407030291 Moscow BALTFAX in English 0930 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to the Estonian Department of Statistics in the first half of 1991 a sharp slump was noticed in the Estonian economy.

In comparison with the same period last year production was down 6.8 percent. But at the same time the number of companies leaving state (republican) control was higher (8.5 percent), higher than the state average (2.2 percent).

The average industrial output for the USSR fell by 6.2 percent in comparison to the same period last year. There has been a fall in milk and meat production in Estonia by 18.1 percent 17.4 percent respectively.

The production of consumer goods and foodstuffs has dropped by 222 million roubles. At the same time the production of alcoholic beverages in Estonia is up by 38.7 million roubles in comparison with a 6 month period in 1990.

Militia Patrols To Start in Tallinn, Elsewhere

LD2307151891 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1400 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] The Estonian police's press service reports that patrols wearing the former militia uniform will be appearing on the streets of Tallinn. The police department says that this means the servicemen of the militia regiment stationed in Tallinn. The patrols will be coordinated with the Tallinn prefect's office and the state police department. Militia patrols will be guided in their activity by the Republic of Estonia's legislation. They have been given rights equal to those of policemen. In the near future militia patrols of this kind will be appearing on the streets of other towns in the republic.

Latvia

USSR Deputy Minister on Police Recognition

OW2407021491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1800 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Speaking at a press conference in Riga, the vice-chairman of the commission on defence and the interior of the Supreme Council of Latvia, Juris Dobelis, has emphasised the importance of the statement of the deputy minister of the interior of the USSR, Vitaliy Sidorov, that the entire matter of setting up a police force in Latvia comes within the competence of the

Latvian Republic. Sidorov also promised that the USSR would not seek to set up any forces alternative to the Latvian police.

Alois Vaznis, the Latvian minister of the interior, has, in turn, said that "the rumours to the effect that Russian-speaking staff, or, to be more precise, those who cannot speak Lettish, are going to be dismissed from the law enforcement bodies are totally groundless".

Vaznis has also told journalists that the troops of the USSR Ministry of the Interior will not guard Latvian prisons after December 31, 1991. "We should start training about 500 people to replace these units no later than next autumn," he said.

Godmanis Ignorant of Pavlov Plan for Republics

OW2407050491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1500 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Latvian prime minister, Ivars Godmanis, has said in an interview to the newspaper NEATKARIGA CINA that he knows nothing about the programme that the Soviet prime minister, Valentin Pavlov, has allegedly prepared in order to teach a lesson the republics not wishing to sign the Union treaty. "The only information I have," he said, "is that Valentin Pavlov has instructed his deputies V. Velichko and V. Shcherbakov to examine and analyse our suggestions on economic relations between Latvia and the Soviet Union, which I gave him in Moscow."

In his interview, Godmanis also emphasised the necessity to put up the costs of municipal and social services. He said that the cost of central heating is to go up fairly soon.

Riga Stock Exchange Reopens After 50 Year Break

LD2307205191 Riga Radio Riga International in English 2030 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] After a 50-year-long break, the Riga Stock Exchange reestablishes its work. During the first day of functioning, they offered goods for more than 100 million rubles. The Riga Stock Exchange has received more than 100 applications for participation in auctions. For the time being the stock exchange uses for premises the conference hall in the Hotel Lativa as the former building of it is still being repaired. Until September the stock exchange functions as a commodity stock exchange but it is anticipated to start later this year a security market as well.

Lithuania

More on Landsbergis View on Government Reshuffle

LD2307104691 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] In the opinion of Vytautas Landsbergis, the present Lithuanian Government is functioning well and there is no need to reorganize it. In an interview with the weekly LITERATURA IR MENAS [Literature and Art] the Parliament chairman said that if some proposals by Premier Gediminas Vagnorius were interpreted as a proposal to form a coalition government, then probably such explanations were incorrect.

According to Vytautas Landsbergis, the first government formed after 11 March was a coalition government and was hesitant concerning reforms.

I do not know whether another coalition government would be more resolute, Vytautas Landsbergis said in the interview with LITERATURA IR MENAS, noting that the issue of reorganizing the government has not emerged naturally. Attempts are being made to impose it from outside. As is known, two weeks ago Premier Gediminas Vagnorius proposed that two new ministerial posts be established in the government. One of them would be given to the rightist and the second to leftist representatives.

Commenting on the proposals by Premier Gediminas Vagnorius, Vytautas Landsbergis said that he had an impression that this was a compromise and a temporary solution. He himself explains it this way and I do not doubt that he is sincere, the Parliament chairman said.

Asked about the intellectuals, Vytautas Landsbergis said it would be good if they were more united and would stabilize the situation in Lithuania by inviting the whole of society to support the main independence line and avoid creating animosity between social groups on secondary matters.

Landsbergis on Continuing Soviet Army Presence

LD2407021691 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] An Army whose address is not Russia, not the Ukraine, but the increasingly more abstract Soviet Union breaks away from the land and therefore may become dangerous to both itself and to those around it, writes Vytautas Landsbergis in today's issue of LIETUVOS AIDAS.

His article: Self-Determination for the Legions is dedicated to the fate of the Army and other repressive institutions under the apparent tendency in the Soviet Union to again lean toward democratic changes.

However, according to Vytautas Landsbergis, certain individuals are still hoping to use the Army, not only for political pressure and intimidation to stop vital social

changes, but also to act against various civil authorities that are being established. Here, the mainstay of the empire's military-industrial complex and CPSU interests is very visible.

However, observes the author, without a Stalinist and Hitlerite dictatorship, it will be difficult to offer cannons to nations in place of butter, and hundreds of new nuclear submarines instead of bread. In the opinion of Vytautas Landsbergis, the Soviet Army must decide whether to be in step with life, adapting itself to the demands of the states comprising the Union and those that do not wish to join it, understanding that the Army serves society and not the contrary, or to be against life, which would mean to conquer a state for itself and from it [word indistinct].

The first instance would mean a change for the military industry, further disarmament, trust and peace throughout the world and, of course, recognition of Lithuania's rights, writes Vytautas Landsbergis in today's LIETUVOS AIDAS.

Supreme Council's 9 July Proceedings Reported

PM2307134991 Vilnius EKHO LITVY in Russian 11 Jul 91 p 1

[ELTA report: "At the Republic's Supreme Council Session"]

[Text] The work of the third session of the Lithuanian Republic's Supreme Council continued 9 July.

The Council continued its discussion of the resolution on bringing into force and implementing the Lithuanian Republic law "On the Procedure and Conditions of Restoring Real Estate Ownership Rights to Citizens and Their Survivors." Several articles of this resolution were adopted.

The republic's Minister of Trade Albertas Sinevicius then asked to take the floor. Prompted by his election as general director of the Lithuanian Trading Exchange, he asked the deputies to agree to release him from his ministerial post.

The Supreme Council accepted A. Sinevicius' resignation and tasked him with performing his duties until a new trade minister is appointed.

Addressing the session, Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius nominated candidates for the posts of vice premier and ministers. The premier proposed that Minister of Social Protection Algirdas Dobravolskas should simultaneously perform the duties of deputy prime minister. He also proposed adding to the government two ministers without portfolio—to deal with questions of regulating internal relations and ties with the Lithuanian emigre community—and nominated Gediminas Kirkilas, deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party, and Rimantas Smetona, chairman of the Nationalist Party for these posts.

The prime minister also reported that, in its desire to improve mutual understanding and accord, the government has made a decision to establish three councils under the government: for national accord and culture, for economic and social reform, and for struggle against organized crime and for external security.

In answer to a question about the appointment of an internal affairs minister, the prime minister noted the great responsibility borne by the police in carrying out its main task—safeguarding law and order—and he noted that at the present time the work of the police should be organized in such a way that nobody could channel it any particular direction. Therefore, the premier proposed that the post of internal affairs minister be temporarily entrusted to himself.

After this, Vice Premier Vytautas Pakalniskis expressed the government's position on the draft laws currently being discussed on land reform and the privatization of agricultural enterprises.

A resolution was adopted ratifying the regulations on the Lithuanian Academic Council. The Parliament instructed the Lithuanian Republic Supreme Council Presidium to schedule elections for the Lithuanian Academic Council no later than 15 October 1991.

Deputy Povilas Varanauskas made a statement on behalf of the Nationalist faction about the violation of citizens' rights. The statement notes that while sheltering behind the law "On Liability for Breaking Trading Rules" and the amendment to this law, the law enforcement services are imposing fines of 1,000 rubles or more on citizens and confiscating personal-use items intended for sale on a one-time-only basis with no intention of living off the profits from the trade. The faction requested that this statement be assessed by the appropriate parliamentary commissions.

The deputies approved the Lithuanian Republic draft law on immigration after its second discussion.

Further on Vagnorius' Call for Dual Post

OW2407024991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Lithuanian prime minister, G. Vagnorius, again proposed that the republican Parliament should consider naming him for the post of minister of internal affairs in addition to his other post.

On 23rd July he presented the Supreme Soviet with a new project of resolutions, agreement to which would entrust the PM with position of minister of internal affairs until 1st November 1991. By which time the PM has to find and present to the deputies a new candidate for the position. According to G. Vagnorius this suggestion, in comparison with previous suggestions which did

not mention a temporary occupation of the post, should be considered as a compromise.

However, yet again representatives of the liberals, the left, the centre and of the Polish faction announced that they could not accept the PM's suggestion. Before voting began some deputies left the room. The results of the vote were as follows: 58 voted for, 6 against and 12 abstained. 67 votes were required to carry out the motion.

During the course of the discussion G. Vagnorius explained his determination to take on the duties of the minister of internal affairs. Mr. Misiukonis; he said that the latter had become "an object of political pressure" by the left wing. In response some deputies of the centre and left demanded that an investigation be held and that the names of those supposedly exerting pressure upon G. Vagnorius should be brought to light.

M. Misiukonis himself was not present at the sitting of Parliament.

Loses Vote on Cabinet Proposal

LD2407050491 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] During deliberations at Lithuanian's Parliament today on the appointment of a minister of internal affairs, a proposal by Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius was rejected. Marijonas Misiukonis continues to carry out the duties of the minister of internal affairs.

The prime minister referred to his own proposal as a very great compromise not to appoint a minister at all, but rather to task the prime minister to temporarily carry out these duties. One of the current deputy ministers would be designated the first deputy minister, in direct charge of the ministry's work, until a new minister is appointed.

Prime Minister Vagnorius proposed to extend the term until 1 November, when he would have to present a candidate to fill the ministerial post. Prime Minister Vagnorius said he had information indicating that leftist forces, which are also represented in Parliament, are pressuring the current head of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

This assertion was met with a demand by certain deputies for an investigation and for the disclosure of the names of individuals, perhaps parliamentary deputies, who are trying to pressure the ministry's head, Marijonas Misiukonis. Unfortunately, this official was absent from the hall during deliberation of this question.

Before voting on the proposal, leftist and centrist forces in Parliament declared they would not support the prime minister's proposal. Declarations were made by the liberal, central, leftist and Polish faction representatives. The proposal was supported by the joint Sajudis, the Nationalist and the Seventh factions. A group of opposing deputies left the hall before the vote.

The proposal made by Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius was supported by 58 deputies; 12 abstained and six voted against it. Sixty-seven votes were needed to adopt the proposal. The question of the appointment of an internal affairs minister has again been postponed.

Vagnorius Airs Economic Issues at Vilnius Plant

PM2307161591 Vilnius EKHO LITVY in Russian 11 Jul 91 pp 1-2

[R. Lyubayev report: "Lithuania on Course for the Market"]

[Text] Last Tuesday, 9 July, Lithuanian Republic Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius visited the Vilnius Radio Component Plant. This was the premier's first meeting with the working people of the enterprise in the Lithuanian capital. The purpose of the visit was not just to get acquainted with the state of affairs at the plant, but also to get to know something about the people's mood and their perception of the economic reforms that are going on in the republic. After a short tour around the shops, where the guest talked with workers and was shown with the production process, he had a meeting with the enterprise's working people.

Lithuania is on course for the market—this was the basic theme of the discussion that took place at the meeting. As Gediminas Vagnorius noted, the market is being established within the conditions of its still-emerging statehood, where administrative methods of managing the economy have not yet been supplanted by economic incentives. But at the present stage, the use of certain administrative measures such as the introduction of state targets for enterprises, for example, is essential. This is dictated by the desire to protect Lithuania's internal market and to avert chaos in the economy. The prime minister stressed that the reform of the pricing system that is being carried out in Lithuania is also connected with this. Against the background of rising purchase prices in the Union, the preservation of previous price levels in Lithuania could lead to considerable losses and to the danger that food and industrial items will be shipped out of the republic.

The price reform is being carried out in several stages along with the systematic payment of compensation. Gediminas Vagnorius said that the average pay in Lithuania today is 600-700 rubles. Provision has been made for the payment of social benefits for young children, invalids, and other population groups that need the protection of the state and society, and additional funds are being sought to increase pay for teachers, doctors, and cultural workers. However, there exists side by side with this the serious problem of providing goods to absorb "spare" money. Therefore, a special voucher system will be introduced in the near future to ensure that the inhabitants of Lithuania can acquire scarce goods.

The issue of privatization was also touched on at the meeting. It is no secret to anyone that the Law on Initial

Privatization has evoked many doubts and attracted unfavorable criticism. However, according to Gediminas Vagnorius, the government was striving to offer all of Lithuania's inhabitants equal terms for participation in the privatization process.

The guest was asked a number of questions. His listeners paid particular attention to the answer he gave to a question about the future of enterprises under so-called Union jurisdiction. Lithuania's position is unequivocal, the prime minister said; these enterprises must become the property of the Lithuanian Republic. However, the issue will be resolved definitively in talks with the Soviet Union. G. Vagnorius stressed that even today enterprises subordinated to the Union are under Lithuanian jurisdiction; that is to say, they must operate in accordance with the republic's laws.

Agreement With RSFSR Ready To Be Signed

OW2407043991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The press-attache for the Lithuanian Parliament, A. Ajubalis, announced at a briefing of the Supreme Soviet on Tuesday that a delegation from the Russian Federation will be in Vilnius on the 24th July in order to put the finishing touches to the agreement to be signed between Lithuania and Russia.

As "BALTFAX" has already announced the signing of the agreement by the leaders of the two republics, Boris Yeltsin and Vytautas Landsbergis, is scheduled to take place on 29th July. This was decided last week at a meeting between the two leaders in Moscow.

According to A. Ajubalis the Russian delegation will pay special attention to the preparation of an agreement regarding the Kaliningrad region which should be signed along with the main agreement.

A. Ajubalis announced that the Lithuanian minister for finance, Albertas Shimenas, will be in Moscow on 25th July. His visit, according to the press-attache of the Lithuanian Parliament, is also related to the preparations for the agreement between Lithuania and Russia.

A. Ajubalis also said that there will be a closed sitting of the Lithuanian delegation working on the [word indistinct] with the USSR, during which they will discuss the possible improvement of the work on [word indistinct] between Lithuania and the USSR performed by groups of specialists.

Further on Upcoming RSFSR Visit

LD2307215891 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Members of the Russian delegation for negotiations with Lithuania are expected to arrive in Vilnius tomorrow. They will prepare a special agreement concerning the Kaliningrad region. This is an additional document under the already-prepared interstate agreement between the Russian Federation and the Lithuanian Republic.

All documents will be signed next Monday in Moscow.

It is hoped, in Lithuania, that an interstate agreement with Russia will also provide an impetus for dialogue with the Soviet Union.

This morning, a meeting was also held by the Lithuanian delegation for negotiations with the Soviets. During this meeting, there was discussion regarding the best way to coordinate the Lithuanian experts' activity in order to kindle the other side's experts to act.

As known, a total of nine groups of experts for each side have been set up to prepare separate questions for the planned negotiations.

More Reportage on Yeltsin Departyization Decree

Reaction to Ruling 'Not Uniform'

LD2307221891 Moscow TASS in English 2059 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Yegorov]

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS—Reaction from the republic's public to the Russian president's decree issued on Saturday was not uniform—from absolutely negative statements to complete approval.

The decree halts the activities of organisational structures of political parties and mass public movements in state bodies and institutions in the Russian Federation.

"It is evident that the Russian president's new decree is aimed first and foremost against the Soviet Communist Party. It aims to destroy the existing party structures," reads a statement by the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, published here.

The provisions of the document "mean serious limits to democratic freedoms and citizens' rights", the statement reads. They "run counter to the norms of the international pact on civil and political rights, recognised by the world community".

The Soviet Communist Party Secretariat appealed to the Soviet parliament, asking it to instruct the constitutional compliance committee to issue a conclusion about the decree's compliance with the Soviet Constitution and laws.

Newspapers in the Khabarovsk territory carry a statement by the Russian Communist Party territorial committee, noting that the decree contradicts the opinion of most people's deputies of the Russian Federation.

An open offensive is under way in the republic on people's power. The process of desovietization has begun. Constitutional rights of working people for health protection, employment, housing and education are being violated, the statement reads.

The decree limits working people's opportunities for organised struggle for their vital interests at enterprises and institutions, the statement reads.

In the city of Tyumen regional Communist Party Committee leader Vladimir Chertishchev said the decree is "anti-democratic" and it is a "serious move towards destabilising the situation in the country".

Tyumen Mayor Gennady Raikov believes that "it is time the Soviet Communist Party cease to be the ruling, guiding and consolidating force. It should be one of parties. I favour equal rights".

Many residents of Murmansk told TASS that the decree is a manifestation of Yeltsin's dictatorial ambitions. Head of a Murmansk cooperative Vladimir Boglayev believes that "first, it is necessary to resolve domestic economic problems, but the president begins with political and ideological moves. This can only result in a new round of confrontation between radicals and conservatives".

"The country is living through economic crisis. It is on the verge of famine. Instead of taking cardinal measures, our president is searching for enemies among his former party comrades," said Anatoliy Ishanin, a Soviet Communist Party member.

"The number of members in the regional Soviet Communist Party organisation will rapidly dwindle," said prominent economic [as received] Valentin Fedorov, chairman of the Sakhalin regional executive committee.

"I wonder why party leaders are not trying to move the party out of crisis. They are evidently lacking the self-preservation instinct. I believe that the chance for consolidating various movements in the Soviet Communist Party has been lost," Fedorov said.

Novosibirsk regional Communist Party Committee Secretary Vladimir Shumilov also said the decree will lead to rapid resignation of party members. Over 50,000 people in Novosibirsk have left the Soviet Communist Party over the perestroyka years. According to Shumilov, the decree aims to remove the Soviet Communist Party from the political arena.

'Vesti' Notes Support

LD2007201891 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 20 Jul 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Excerpts] Today's main news is that Boris Yeltsin has signed his second presidential decree. Even people with healthy skepticism find this decree very important. The decree is on disbanding party structures in state bodies, establishments, and organizations on the territory of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic. [passage omitted]

We have gotten used to the way things are. However, if we try to forget our stereotypes, it is quite obvious how unnatural it is for one party, the CPSU, to dominate our country. That is, in fact, the party that this decree concerns above all. [passage omitted]

On a related point, sociological investigations show about 85 percent of communist officers fully support the idea of disbanding party structures in the armed forces. [passage omitted]

Rutskoy Offers Praise

LD2307190591 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Interview with Aleksandr Rutskoy, leader of "Communists for Democracy," on RSFSR President Boris Yeltsin's 20 July decree, in Moscow on 23 July—recorded]

[Text] Here is the position of Aleksandr Rutskoy, the leader of the movement Communists for Democracy.

[Rutskoy] Here all the social and political movements and all the parties are on equal terms. However, this decree does not ban me from holding views on policies, party problems, or socio-political problems. The decree says clearly and distinctly that citizen participation in the activities of political parties or mass public movements cannot serve as reason for restricting people's rights, including their right to occupy certain posts. In other words, I have the right to engage in these matters.

And of course, I call on my comrades, my like-minded friends, to fulfill this decree. Why? Because what has been happening in our society for 74 years is that the Communist Party directed and guided people. This cannot go on. Why? Because ours is a multiparty system now. This is why, as of today the idea is that any party, be it the Social Democratic Party or the Republican or the Democratic or the Christian Party or any other party which may emerge in the future, has the right to lead and guide people.

Therefore, should one leave things as they were before the decree, then we will end up badly. Why? Because everyone will try to pursue only his own decision and his own way of tackling various issues. This decree, on the other hand, enables all officials to be guided solely by the constitutions and laws. As for party views, and ideologies, these are matters for leisure time. Do read the decree to see for yourselves. This decree is so right because it indeed places all social democratic movements and parties on equal terms. In other words, one's membership—say, you are a member of the CPSU, or of the social democratic or the democratic party—cannot affect one's position at work and one's career. Yet previously all this used to be influential in this respect. Therefore this decree is very correct.

I think that labor collectives which in the past did come out in favor of abolishing party committees, etc—they just did not have any legislative basis for adopting this decision. Now if a labor collective adopts a decision to abolish the party committees at the enterprise or the institute, it is underscored by the presidential decree.

Prokofyev Calls Decree 'Illegal'

LD2307213991 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1840 GMT 23 Jul 91

["Topical Interview" program with Yuriy Prokofyev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and first secretary of the Moscow City Party Committee by an unidentified interviewer; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] We now present for your attention an interview with Yuriy Anatoliyevich Prokofyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow City Party Committee.

[Interviewer] Did the decree on dismantling party structures come as a surprise to the leadership of the Moscow community party organization?

[Prokofyev] We expected a decree of that sort, but the form in which the decree was issued definitely did come as a surprise to us, because it is an attack not just on the CPSU, but on democratic forces in our society altogether. It bans activity in labor collectives not only by the CPSU, but also by other political parties and, most importantly and incomprehensibly, by public movements. The trade unions are an especially striking example. What is to happen if the management does not agree to trade union activity? After all, there are examples of that abroad, say, where if the proprietor is a private owner, he bans setting up trade unions at his enterprise, he does not allow trade unions in, and increases the degree of exploitation of the workers. In the process of privatization, this provision allows future entrepreneurs, private owners of the means of production, to act like that.

The second thing is this. Speaking about the contents of the decree, it contains a provision cancelling the validity of decisions made by the Central Committee and the Council of Ministers on various subjects at a time when the CPSU was the ruling party, under the Constitution, and was effectively the state structure of administration. Whether that was good or bad is another matter, but those resolutions do exist; they regulate large areas of activity in health care, public education, and culture. Generally speaking, that change suddenly undermines activities in our social field, too. Other resolutions and laws of some kind in that area have not yet been adopted, and we are moving toward a law-governed state.

The third thing I wish to say about this law, this decree, is that it contradicts the Constitutions of both the USSR and the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR], which nobody has yet amended, and the law on public organizations adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet. In this case, we are acting not as defenders of the CPSU, but as a party defending the interests of the development of democracy in our country altogether.

[Interviewer] That is a harsh assessment.

[Prokofyev] Yes, it is, because we realize that the reduction in the importance and opportunities of representative bodies of power, meaning now the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Supreme Soviet of the republic, and, on the other hand, the narrowing of the field of activity of various types of democratic political institutions and movements could all lead to an authoritarian form of government, to the dictatorship about which people have talked and are still talking now. That worries us.

[Interviewer] The decree contains the following point, and I would like to know what you think about it: Persons employed in state service are guided in their professional activity by the requirements of Russian Federation legislation, and are not bound by decisions of

political parties and mass public movements. Do you share that view, or does your position differ?

[Prokofyev] In this case, I support that point of view wholly and completely. People employed in state service and the law-enforcement bodies must be guided not by political considerations, but by the laws which exist in the state, because in multiparty conditions, our state will not be able to function if everybody goes his own way. In this case, people in state service must be guided by the interests and laws of the state. The same applies to the law-enforcement bodies.

[Interviewer] What will change when this decree is implemented, when it is put into practice?

[Prokofyev] It is not simply about removing party committees from the premises: You can rent space next door and put the party committee there. It involves something else: Denying people who work in an organization the right to join together in a party collective, and so on. I once went to an oil refinery in Austria where there are six political parties. They function there, and although the Communist Party is the smallest in terms of numbers, a Communist was elected chairman of the council of the labor collective, because they put forward programs which were more acceptable and interesting to the workers at that factory. It involves something else. There would be justification for that decree if the CPSU still had its powers, if Article 6 of the Constitution had not been repealed. But now that the CPSU, generally speaking, is just one political party among many, and is obliged to operate by political methods alone, I believe that this decree, generally, is superfluous, quite apart from the fact that it is illegal.

[Interviewer] Do you have contacts with other parties and organizations?

[Prokofyev] There are contacts with a number of public organizations. Well, I think it was a month-and-a-half or two months ago that we held a roundtable meeting. Participating in it were representatives of the Democratic Party of Russia, including Nikolay Ilyich Travkin himself. A representative of the Republican Party was present, as were the trade unions of Moscow and Moscow Oblast. This was the first step, as it were.

[Interviewer] Well, as far as this decree is concerned, I mean, have consultations already been held on this score?

[Prokofyev] No, for the time being we have not held any consultations, save for, say, the women's movement, the youth movement, the veterans' movement. But consultations are ahead, depending upon the situation that will take shape, where other political parties are concerned.

[Interviewer] What do you intend to do next?

[Prokofyev] We count on the president and the Constitutional Supervision Committee adopting appropriate decisions in accordance with the Constitution and the laws in force. As for the leadership of the Russian Republic, I think that it ought to follow the logic of the laws if it indeed intends to implement the principles it proclaims—to build a law-governed state. I cannot speak on behalf of the whole party, but the Moscow City Party organization is ready to work under any conditions.

[Interviewer] Do you conceive an alternative model of departyization? What model, in your view, would be acceptable and democratic?

[Prokofyev] You know, you cannot have departyization and depoliticization in an unadulterated form—we are talking here of repartyization or repoliticization. Nature abhors a vacuum and in places where, say, the position of the city party organization grew weaker, in approximately 200 collectives, grassroots organizations of Democratic Russia have been set up. The Democratic Party of Russia is, likewise, currently setting up grassroots organizations at enterprises. So, our life is such that the individual cannot be outside politics. I emphasize yet again: It is perfectly proper that the state apparatus and the law protection bodies ought, of course, to be guided in their activities by the laws of the specific republic or state, and not by political considerations, since they are in the service of the state. Secondly, the role of political organizations is changing. They should not issue commands to administrative bodies or interfere in their activities. They ought to form the public opinion, something which, incidentally, is now being done by the trade union organizations.

[Interviewer] All in all, what is the situation like now? After all, many people have left the party; there were also those who have joined it. What is the situation like now?

[Prokofyev] Well, our city organization now has 870,000 people. There were 1,135,000 people, and some 300,000 people left the party in the space of 18 months;' 200,000 left last year; 90,000 people left the party this year already. Frankly, the process was not something to worry about to begin with, because the party was the only one, and many people joined it due to career considerations. It is hard to blame them for this, because it was extremely complicated to climb the promotion ladder if you were not a party member. Those who had been accepted by the party in view of their social status: workers, youths, women left the party. Then, well, in connection with the events in East Europe, there was an outflow from the party, an outflow of people who were simply afraid of the consequences of being in the party; they were afraid of victimization, of being banned from jobs. There has now been another wave. People who are leaving the party now are, for the most part, in disagreement with the policy being currently pursued. They find it hard to explain these crisis phenomena in the economy, the sharp decline in the living standards, and this category is now leaving the party. At the same time, though, people are also joining the party. Last year we accepted 9,500 people, and almost all of them are under 35 years of age.

[Interviewer] Your views concerning the immediate prospects of the political life connected with this decree?

[Prokofyev] Well, I think that, all the same, I count on the common sense of the country's leadership and the republican leadership alike. Let me say again that this fragile consensus and equilibrium which now exists in our society should not be disturbed by decrees of this kind. If, however, the decree remains in force, I want to say yet again that we have gone through various options, and that the city party organization will manage to work under the new conditions, too.

Communist Reacts to Decree

LD2307134691 Moscow TASS in English 1203 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin's decree banning political activity at workplace is "a blow against democracy", according to Nikolay Gritsenko, who chairs a parliamentary commission on labour and social policy and is a member of the Communist faction in the Soviet Parliament.

"The elimination of Party and other public structures at enterprises does not promote democracy and democratic management of social and economic life at enterprises," Gritsenko said.

"The structure of work collectives includes various public organisation, including parties, youth, women's and other organisations. Reliance on the work collective and its public structures reflected genuine self-government," he said.

The decree says that trade unions should work at enterprises under a special agreement between the management and the work collective, this formula can hamper trade union work, he said.

Gritsenko, nevertheless, welcomed a provision under which state employees are allowed to take part in Party work exclusively after work.

"This is a just demand in line with the law on public organisations recently passed by the Soviet Parliament.

Ilyin Attacks Decree

LD2307174591 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] A sharp conversation took place at the Russian CP Central Committee press centre today, devoted to the political situation in the country and, inter alia, to the 20 July decree by Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] President Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin. Aleksey Nikolayevich Ilyin, second secretary of the republican CP Central Committee, made a statement.

[Begin Ilyin recording] The Russian CP hoped that Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin's first decrees would pursue the objective of peace, civic concord, and of taking the republic out of the crisis, especially in the socioeconomic sphere. Nevertheless, this decree has appeared, and it in no way agrees with the oath which, as recently as 10 days ago, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin gave at the solemn sitting of the Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies. He stressed then that, as Russian president, he would comply with the RSFSR Constitution and RSFSR laws, and respect and protect the rights and freedoms of the individual and the citizen.

The act signed on 20 July, however, is an unconstitutional act. In fact, we think a crushing blow is being dealt to the nascent democracy in our country. This decree flagrantly obstructs the development of a multiparty system and the creation of new political and public movements. Even the sacred right of the working people to set up trade unions is being brought into question, and is made dependable only, I quote, on agreement between the administration of state institutions, organizations, enterprises, and the labor collective.

Naturally, the RSFSR president's decree exacerbates the political situation in the country, and thwarts the process of the stabilization that has taken shape. We believe that this decree tramples upon the generally accepted norms of international declarations and accords on human rights, and the Constitutions and laws of the USSR and Russia. By signing this document, Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, in our view, has exceeded the powers given to him by the RSFSR law on Russian Presidency. Neither the Russian Constitution nor the bodies of supreme power have provided grounds for limiting the activity of parties and movements.

Therefore, the Politburo of the Russian CP Central Committee will make a corresponding statement tomorrow, in which clear positions of the Russian CP on this issue will be set out. [end recording]

Decree Called 'Unconstitutional'

LD2307154791 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By TASS correspondent Boris Zverev]

[Text] Moscow July 23 TASS—The Russian Communist Party leadership has described Russian President Boris Yeltsin's decree, signed on July 20, as "unconstitutional."

Addressing a news conference here today, Russian Communist Party deputy leader Aleksey Ilyin said many citizens in the republic are expressing "concern" over the decree.

The Russian Communist Party leadership believes that the decree "strikes a shattering blow on democracy

appearing in the country." "the decree obstructs introducing a multi-party system and prevents the creation of new political and public movements," Ilyin said.

Ilyin believes that the decree is "seriously aggravating the political situation in the country and wrecking the stabilisation process."

Ilyin said the Russian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo is planning to issue a statement on Wednesday, "outlining the Russian Communist Party's clear-cut position on the issue."

Decree 'Contradicts' Yeltsin's Oath

OW2407081991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Second Secretary of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee Aleksey Ilyin has said that the decree by the Russian President Boris Yeltsin about departyization of state-run enterprises and organizations would apply to almost half of the Russian Federation's population taking into account that it concerns not only communists but also women's and veterans' organizations, as well as the Young Communist League.

Speaking at a news conference July 23, Mr. Ilyin noted that the decree contradicts the Constitution and the presidential oath. He pointed out that the Russian Communist Party intends to issue a statement on that issue Wednesday.

Mr. Ilyin believes the recent actions by the Russian President can be viewed as the first steps toward a dictatorship. "We have the right to address the Soviet President and the Committee of Constitutional Supervision and we will use it. And if the President and the Committee will consider our claims to be fair, it may constitute the case of impeachment in relation to Yeltsin", he stressed.

CPSU Requests Opinion

LD2307134291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] In connection with the decree of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic president, the Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee made a request to the country's Supreme Soviet that it should instruct the Committee for the Supervision of the Constitution to give its opinion on whether the decree is in keeping with the Constitution and the laws of the USSR.

Commission Set Up To Implement Decree

LD2307121191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] The decree by Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, on the removal of party control in Russian state bodies will be implemented in Moscow without deviation. Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov stated this in an interview with the RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY. According to Popov, a commission is now being set up to help implement the decree. With the removal of party control, the capital's mayor stressed, no one has the right to subject people to force in regard to views, positions, and so on. Encroachment on people's rights to unite in public organizations must categorically not be permitted. However, Gavriil Popov noted, it must be clearly recognized that in a multiparty era, it is impossible to set aside 20 rooms, for example, in one establishment for the party committee of the various parties.

Yeltsin, Republics Agree on Tax System

LD2307144391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1330 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] A single point of view on the principles of organization of the tax system in the Union of Sovereign Republics was worked out today at a meeting between Boris Yeltsin, president of Russia, and leaders of the republics within the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic. Speaking at the meeting, Boris Yeltsin stressed that if a two-channel taxation system promoted by the USSR president and a number of Union republics, is adopted, enormous sums will be taken out of Russia's control. As a result of the discussion, all the participants at the meeting spoke in favor of a one-channel system of forming the Union budget. It was suggested that deductions should be made on the basis of a predetermined percentage of either income or gross product.

Results of Yeltsin's Kyrgyzstan Visit Viewed

OW2407083091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Pavel Voshchanov, Press-Secretary of the Russian Federation's President, summed up the results of Boris Yeltsin's visit to the republic of Kyrgyzstan.

The main result was the treaty on the main principles of inter-state relations between Russia and Kyrgyzstan. The treaty is based on the norms of the international law.

The two sides concluded an agreement, defining the fields of mutual interest in tackling the most vitally important economic and social problems.

The two republics reached an agreement on drafting a programme of economic cooperation.

They also signed an agreement according to which Russia will extend credits to Kyrgyzstan for the implementation of a number of economic programmes meeting the republics' interests, above all programmes for filling the markets of the two republics with consumer goods.

Special emphasis was laid on guarantees of the rights of ethnic Russians and Kyrgyz in both republics. The two presidents committed themselves to guarantee the civil and economic rights of the Russian and Slavic population in Kyrgyzstan and of the Kyrgyz population in the Russian Federation.

Both sides assess the visit as very efficient, says the press-secretary's report. Solid foundations for mutually advantageous and equitable cooperation between the two sovereign states were laid; the two republics revealed similar political views on many problems; spheres of mutual interest were defined and common determination to create a new Union—a Union of equal and sovereign states—was expressed.

IZVESTIYA Discusses Pavlov Visit

PM2407103191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jul 91 Union Edition p 2

[TASS report: "V.S. Pavlov's Trip"]

[Text] An agreement will be concluded on declaring the diamond-rich area on the territory of Yakut-Sakha SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] a special zone, envisaging in particular that the republic should delegate to Union organs the exclusive right to mine and export natural diamonds in the interests of pursuing a unified policy regarding the external trade in diamonds taking due account of the general demands of the world market.

Accord on this score was reached during USSR Prime Minister V.S. Pavlov's trip to the Yakut-Sakha Soviet Socialist Republic and during talks with the republic leadership—M.Ye. Nikolayev, chairman of the Supreme Soviet, and K.Ye. Ivanov, chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The agreement will guarantee the legal rights of the Yakut-Sakha SSR, the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic], and the renewed Union of Sovereign Republics as a whole. The terms of its implementation, the rights and obligations of signatories, and other concrete undertakings are defined in the agreement, which will be published.

On 20 July the USSR Prime Minister V.S. Pavlov ended his stay in Kamchatka Oblast.

At an oblispolkom [oblast soviet executive committee] meeting, the prime minister was presented with a number of important problems, mainly to do with the oblast's right to dispose of 30 percent of its fish products. "We have everything we need to live well: resources, energy, manpower. All we ask is that you untie our hands," V. Biryukov, chairman of the Kamchat oblispolkom, said.

V. Pavlov departed for Sakhalin the same day.

Silayev Chairs Talks on Republic Economic Links

LD2307175191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] An interrepublican conference on foreign economic issues is being held today by Russian Prime Minister Ivan Silayev and the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic ministry of foreign economic links. Coordination between the USSR Government and governments of Union republics in the foreign economic sphere under conditions of their newly obtained sovereignty and transition to the market, is being discussed. Also under discussion are problems of preserving a single economic space and a single customs and currency territory, and regulating exports and imports.

Communists for Democracy Hold Conference

LD2307181291 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] A conference of members of the Communists for Democracy intra-party movement is under way in Moscow now. Here is our correspondent Aleksandr Ruvinskiy.

[Ruvinskiy] The matter I am going to talk about is directly related to the report already broadcast in today's evening edition of the latest news. Representatives of Moscow and Moscow Oblast have gathered here, at the Moskvoretskiy Rayon CPSU Committee. They include not only Communists but also non-party members and people who left the CPSU recently. They all are united by the idea of the Communists for Democracy movement. Today it is only a movement but it is not ruled out that in as soon as a week's time the creation of a new party will be announced, a party of supporters of this movement, provisionally entitled the Democratic Party of Communists of Russia. Whether this party will remain within the CPSU or will become an independent entity apparently will be decided in the next few days and depends, to a great degree, on the way the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee goes. To all appearances, this will be an independent party, after all. Participants in the current conference are inclined to believe that, given the current leadership of the Russian Communist Party, any renewal is impossible, but without renewal one cannot restore party members' lost dignity. The CPSU program to be submitted to the forthcoming plenum was subjected to quite strong criticism. It is published in today's edition of the NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. But final decisions will be made at a Russian conference of the Communists for Democracy movement. It will open on 2 August.

IZVESTIYA on Dispute Over Leningrad TV

PM2307150191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 91 Union Edition p 8

["TV and Us" article by Vl. Arsenyev: "Leningrad: Battle for the Airwaves"]

[Text] It has long been known that any phenomenon in life can be seen from different viewpoints. The arguments over the Leningrad Television and Radio Committee are confirmation of that. Last week the All-Union Television and Radio Company began to reorganize the Leningrad Committee just like its own Moscow services. This elicited a sharp protest from the Leningrad City Soviet, which believes that it has more grounds for regarding Leningrad TV as its own. But the Leningrad television and radio collective itself has its own opinion differing from those of the first two bodies, and does not want to be in anyone's power at all.

So who is right?

IZVESTIYA has already twice (in issues No. 28 and No. 58) described the situation prevailing in Leningrad. Let me remind you: In January a conference of representatives of the Leningrad television and radio collective adopted a decision on creating an independent state television and radio company with the status of a republic organization. Moscow did not react to this at all, and the Leningrad City Soviet was angry. By then Leningrad television and radio had three cofounders—the then USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and the Leningrad City Soviet and Oblast Soviet Executive Committees. But Leningrad television and radio were subsidized by Moscow. Accordingly, all the expenditure connected with the technical facilities was also handled by the Union budget. So essentially Leningrad television and radio were regarded as part of all-Union television and radio.

Were regarded.... But was this actually the case? This question, which had not occurred to anyone for years, was probably the sharpest one in spring of last year. Then, if you recall, a group of Leningrad City Soviet deputies, willfully changing the broadcasting network, gave live airtime to the investigator Nikolay Ivanov. There was a scandal. They began an investigation into how this had become possible and who had what rights to airtime. Mikhail Nenashev, the then leader of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, gave orders to sift through all the archives and find confirmation that that Leningrad television was part of Central Television. They duly found it. In the late sixties a decision was adopted to create a State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting experimental center on the basis of Leningrad television and radio. Although the deputies cited the session's decision on giving N. Ivanov immediate access to the airwaves, they were told: Before doing this, you should have coordinated the decision with the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting.

Soon Leningrad television and radio personnel had their pay raised to the level of central television and radio personnel. They were happy, of course. Admittedly, they were sarcastic: "If it had not been for the scandal, who knows when Moscow would have remembered that people in Leningrad television and radio, which have the same rights as Central Television, make 1.5-2 times less than the Muscovites."

In summer the USSR Council of Ministers adopted a decision on creating on the basis of the Leningrad Television and Radio Committee Central Television "Channel 5," signed by N. Ryzhkov. The decision more firmly laid down that Leningrad television and radio belong to Moscow. But subsequently, as you know, Mikhail Nenashev was reassigned from the post of leader of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting. All his plans for reorganizing the structure of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, including the creation of "Channels 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5," seemingly went with him. Leonid Kravchenko became leader of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting by decree of the USSR president. He naturally had his own program.

You can take different views of what L. Kravchenko has done so far. For some people he is bad, for some people good. Some curse him for trying to stifle glasnost. But it is under him that the All-Russian Television and Radio Company began operating, others object. Has the All-Union Television and Radio Company headed by Kravchenko seized and grabbed Leningrad television and radio? From the viewpoint of the All-Union Television and Radio Company, no! Leningrad TV is part of Central TV. Under the USSR president's February decree, everything that belonged to the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting was transferred to the All-Union Television and Radio Company, including Leningrad TV. All expenditure on maintaining it is assumed by the center. In 1991 alone the center allocated 45 million rubles for the needs of Leningrad television and radio. So, people in Ostankino [Moscow TV center] explained, the reorganization that began last week in Leningrad is an internal affair in no way different from the reorganization of the company's Moscow components. To seize is to take what belongs to someone else. In this case no one has done anything to anything belonging to someone else. "If the local authorities want to have their own programs," Valentin Lazutkin, first deputy leader of the All-Union Television and Radio Company, said, "Central Television will help them: It will lease airtime to them, and they can use it as they choose...."

But, I repeat, you can take different views of the same phenomenon. Foreseeing that the All-Union Television and Radio Company would consolidate the affiliation of Leningrad television and radio to its own system, at their ninth session in late June Leningrad City Soviet deputies adopted a statement and an appeal regarding the status of Leningrad television. In their opinion, Leningrad television and radio must be an independent company with four founders—the USSR State Television and Radio Company, the Leningrad City Soviet, the Leningrad Oblast Soviet, and the Leningrad Television and Radio Committee labor collective. The deputies, the

appeal to RSFSR President Boris Yeltsin said, are worried by the fate of Leningrad television and radio, for which they believe the fate of faceless appendage of the All-Union Television and Radio Company lies in store. Moreover, the deputies asked that a positive solution of the question of Leningrad television's autonomy and independence be made a condition for signing the Union Treaty.

A rally sanctioned by the city authorities was held Thursday 18 July at 6 Chapygin Street, the location of the Leningrad television and radio building. The essence of the speeches and slogans boiled down to the familiar protest formula—"Hands off!" Perturbed by the center's decision, the Leningrad municipal authorities are now thinking of creating their own television and radio studio. It is quite possible that the division of the production base and calculations of what proportion belongs to whom will begin any day now. Take the land on which the Leningrad television and radio buildings stand. Whose is it? Surely it belongs to Leningrad?

I am merely forecasting the future course of events. But it is already obvious that these events will not be tranquil. Probably the second stage of the battle for the airwaves has really begun—a battle that is very natural and explicable nowadays when, in order to establish your power over people, you primarily need to occupy television—the most important of skills in shaping public opinion.

And what about the "Battleship Potemkin" of Soviet television, which for six months since its decision on independence has sailed the high seas far from any shores? What view of the situation is taken by the Leningrad television and radio labor collective, which refused to be subordinate to the Leningrad City Soviet, the Leningrad Oblast Soviet, the All-Union Television and Radio Company, or the All-Russian Television and Radio Company? I called Leningrad and talked with people. Confused feelings! Leningrad, they assured me, has historically deserved the right to be an independent television and radio company, just like the all-Union or all-Russian companies. But in the meantime, Boris Petrov, leader of the Leningrad Television and Radio Committee, said, it has managed to secure the right to freely pursue broadcasting policy and foreign economic activity. No more than that. But if it had its own founders or operated as a joint-stock company, I was told, the Leningrad Television and Radio Company would be able to find the money for its own needs, thereby relieving the Union budget of superfluous expenditure. And what is bad about that?

But who will answer this question, though it is generally the simplest in an increasingly complex situation? When people are again asking "Whose side are you on, masters of culture?" and the dispute between the All-Union Television and Radio Company and the Leningrad City Soviet is acquiring the significance of a dispute about state development, are any other voices heard at all? I think not. Or almost not, they are almost not heard at all. In this arena Leningrad television and radio seems too small a quantity for its wishes to be taken into account.

Several Free Economic Zones To Be Established

Nakhodka Zone Discussed

OW2307051591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A group of high-ranking officials of the Russian Federation's ministries and departments led by the chairman of the RSFSR committee on anti-monopoly policies and support for new economic structures Valeriy Chernogorodskiy will fly to Nakhodka on Tuesday.

The visit is linked with the realisation of the ruling by the RSFSR Council of Ministers on setting up a free economic zone in Nakhodka.

Nakhodka Representative Appointed

OW2307051091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1500 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Federation's Prime Minister Ivan Silayev has signed an order setting up the post of a plenipotentiary representativ of his government with the free economic zone of Nakhodka. The status of this official will be prepared by the Federation's State Economic Commitee.

The order specifies preferences in licensing and funding of the zone. A group of high ranking officials led by the chairman of the RSFSR State Committee on Antimonopoly Policies and support for new economic structures Valeriy Chernogorodskiy will go this month to Nakhodka.

The Federation's government has reprimanded its Finance Ministry for delay in listing the Nakhodka enterprises in the State Register.

Yakut To Establish Special Zone

OW2307054391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1500 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Yakut's Council of Ministers is forming a group of experts to prepare the status of a free economic zone in the republic including the area producing 99 percent of Soviet diamonds.

The enterprises in the zone are to have a degree of autonomy, with the appropriate legal status.

Kuznetsk Zones To Be Established

LD2307104791 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] The Moscow-based newspaper KOMMERSANT, quoting sources close to the government of the Russian Republic, reports that the republic's President Boris Yeltsin and its prime minister have signed a decision for primary measures to develop free economic zones in the Kuznetsk coalfields, in Novgorod and in Vyborg.

It's expected all the enterprises on their territory will be able to engage in any economic activity and pay their staff in hard currency. The enterprises will be given easy financial terms, including the lifting of taxes on export and import. Most benefits will be given to facilities with the participation of foreign capital.

Soviet-French Textile Joint Venture Opens

PM2307091791 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 0530 GMT 20 Jul 91

[From the "Television News Service" newscast: Report by A. Sturua and A. Ogynov]

[Text] Andrey Sturua reports on a new Soviet-French joint venture.

[Sturua] This store [video shows sign reading "Rossiyskiy Tekstil"] used to be popular with both Muscovites and visitors to our city. But lately its popularity has sharply decreased. Why? The same old story—the range of goods on offer has declined.

Now the store has set up a joint venture—ROSFRATEKS—together with (?Samuel), a French company. In addition to Soviet fabrics, French knitwear is on sale here now. One department sells goods for foreign currency, and another for rubles. The prices, I must add, are considerably below the free market ones.

How can one become a customer of this store?

[S.A. Mkrtchan, director general of the ROSFRATEKS joint venture] Very simply. You just walk in without invitation. This won't be a closed store, or a store for a limited circle of customers. Anybody can come here. But we're perfectly aware, of course, that we can't clothe all of Moscow.

[Sturua] Quite right, one store is a drop in the bucket, although the new joint venture has tremendous plans for the future. We ourselves must think about how we will clothe ourselves tomorrow. Think and, above all, act!

Ukraine

Cabinet Discusses 'Complex' Economic Situation

LD2307174691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1040 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Kiev, 23 Jul (TASS)—The complex political and economic situation in the Ukraine and the failing economic indices of the work of many national industries result in a significant growth in the republic's budget deficit. This was stated at a meeting of the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers, according to a report by Aleksey Petrunya, UKRINFORM Agency correspondent.

The income paid to the republican budget over the first six months was 300 million rubles [R], less than planned. Production volume has fallen at 44.5 percent of enterprises by a total of R7.4 billion.

It was stressed at the meeting that if extraordinary measures to rectify the situation are not implemented in the republic, the volume of goods not provided to the population may double while budget losses will increase up to R2 billion before the end of this year.

A government program to stabilize the Ukraine's economy and take it out of the crisis aims to halt the economy's collapse. In accordance with it, ministries, departments, and local bodies of power are carrying out work to increase budget revenues and reduce losses. However, a significant reduction of the deficit has not yet been attained.

Warning of Growing Deficit Cited

LD2307135691 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1200 GMT 23 Jul 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] It was announced today at a meeting of the Ukraine Cabinet of Ministers that the republic is facing a difficult political and economic situation. Indicators for many sectors of the economy have declined, leading to a significant growth in the budget deficit. It was stressed at the meeting that if emergency measures are not implemented in the republic to correct the situation, it will become even worse and budget losses will reach 2 billion rubles.

Minister Discusses Anticenter Forces

LD2307144791 Kiev Radio Kiev International Service in Ukrainian 2200 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] (Volodymyr Chornyy), chief of the Information Department of Ukraine's Foreign Ministry, sees the republic's sovereignization process in the following way:

[Begin (Chornyy) recording] Let us not close our eyes. In our society, in both the Union as a whole and in the Ukraine in particular, there are strong anticenter forces. Call them what you like, separatist or independence-minded, that is not at issue. Due to their existence and to the actions of the center itself, which are not always well thought out, these relations are frequently confrontational. Now we have such terms as war of laws, and in this situation even those normal, progressive changes in republics are seen as some sort of protest against the center. This is how political activity in the Ukraine is frequently regarded.

But what this is all about is the realization of the constitutional right of our republic. This right is in the Constitution, but for a long time it remained dead for many republics. As for the Ukraine, it felt less out of touch since we are a founder and active member of the United Nations and other international organizations. The declaration of state sovereignty, provided a strong impulse for broadening our political contacts (?abroad), especially in such important spheres as bilateral relations and European processes. If in the latter we cannot boast much, as yet, then in relations with our neighbors we can literally say that a real diplomatic breakthrough has been achieved. [end recording]

Regional Party Seeks Kravchuk's Nomination

OW2207055691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 20 Jul 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Khmelnitskiy region committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party held a plenum and suggested that the republican party organization should nominate Leonid Kravchuk, chairman of the Ukrainian parliament, as a candidate for presidential elections in the Ukraine.

Speaking at the plenum Vasiliy Skaiskiy, cochairman of the secretariat of the parliamentary majority, said that no one in the republic today but Leonid Kravchuk has enough prestige and common sense to consolidate the various political forces.

V. Skalskiy urged the central committee of the Ukrainian Communist party to nominate Kravchuk as its candidate for the presidency as soon as possible, before some other party does it.

Group Opposes Signing Union Treaty

LD2307122391 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 2200 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Commentary by Oles Bedzyk]

[Text] Good evening, esteemed listeners. As before, the Union treaty remains the focus of Ukrainian inhabitants. The organization Citizens' Initiative, created with the aim of consolidating the creative forces of the republic, addressed a demand to the Ukrainian Parliament to adhere strictly to the decision of not signing the Union treaty until the republic adopts a new constitution. It urges a law on instituting own currency not later than 1 January 1992, and a decision on rapidly returning

to the Ukraine its share of the all-Union gold, diamond, and hard currency funds. The Citizens' Initiative organization proposes to hold, on the date of the presidential elections, an all-Ukrainian referendum on whether or not the Ukraine wants to be an independent democratic state.

Communist Party Given Official Status

LD2307111291 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrianian 1900 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] The Communist Party of the Ukraine has been granted official status. Ukraine Minister of Justice Boyko today presented Hurenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukraine Communist Party Central Committee, a registration certificate.

Hurenko addressed those present. The ceremony was attended by members of the Ukrainian Politburo Kharchenko, Lisovenko, Savchenko, Kukhar, and Sobchuk, members of the Central Committee and Auditing Commission of the republic Communist Party, representatives of work collectives and public organizations, and workers of the mass media.

Donbass Agrees on U.S., European Joint Venture

PM2307101591 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Jul 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Report by G. Kondaurov and Li Din Khvan]

[Text] [Kondaurov] The Donbass is one of the most promising regions for world business. This was the conclusion drawn by representatives of one of America's largest companies, AIOC, the Dutch bank Mies and Hoop, and other European firms. Coal and metal—the largest detachment of highly qualified workers—form the basis for the region's rapid development. American and European businessmen are interested in large volumes of import-export operations and are willing to make major investments in the industry of the Donbass in order to set up state-of-the-art production units.

The talks—in which the "Azovstal" Combine, the "Inizesyatka" [as heard] Mine, and the Azov Maritime Shipping Company took part—lasted a week. The three Soviet and four foreign partners agreed to set up the "Azar" joint venture, encompassing metal output for which there is a need in our country and on the world market, the coal industry, and sea transport. Incidentally, this highlighted the resolution of the region's highly acute environmental problems, along with the consumer goods sphere. The Ukrainian Government backed the initiative laying the foundations of major international business in the Donbass, which will form the basis for the creation of a free economic zone in the region.

[E. Spitz, AIOC vice president, speaking in English with simultaneous Russian translation] Our cooperation with Soviet businessmen will undoubtedly develop more rapidly now, after USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with the G-7 leaders. There will be good opportunities for major investment in joint projects. Needless to say, the last obstacles to the development of trade will be lifted when the United States grants your country most-favored-nation status.

More on discussion of Crimean Constitution

LD2207192391 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 1500 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] The session of the Supreme Soviet of the Crimean ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic], which was held on Saturday and Sunday, adopted the concept of the constitution of this autonomous republic. The deputies discussed the drafts of three versions—submitted by the parliamentary constitutional commission, the peninsula's Communist Party committee, and representatives of the national movement of Crimean Tatars.

Differences arose on how the revived state in the peninsula should be named. Was it to be the Republic of Crimea or the Crimean ASSR? The final choice was left for the inhabitants themselves; they will decide in a referendum.

Unanimously, the deputies voted against the presidential form of government in the Crimea. While observing the equality of all languages on the republic's territory, the deputies proposed to recognize Russian as an official language. The concept of the constitution envisages citizenship of the Crimean Republic. It was also stressed at the session that the adoption of its own constitution exclusively belongs to the republic's competence. Its fundamental law cannot be a subject for confirmation by the Ukrainian parliament. At the same time, the Crimean constitution cannot run counter the Constitution of the Ukraine, of which Crimea is a part.

Georgia

Gamsakhurdia on Soviet Servicemen's Actions

OW2407052291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0930 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The press service of Georgia's president has released a statement, expressing protest in connection with last Sunday's actions launched in Tbilisi by Soviet servicemen.

According to the statement, on July 21 at about 22:00 more than 60 servicemen emerged in the heart of Tbilisi on the embankment of the River Kura. They were armed with iron rods and army bats. They rushed to the local petrol station where, according to the statement of the Georgian President's press service, they began to destroy cars, drag pasengers out, beat them and shout: "Here's free Georgia for you!"

The military staged a similar pogrom outside the central department store and near the "Aragvi" restaurant situated not far from the petrol station. With the emergence of policemen the servicemen retreated to the barracks of Tbilisi's artillery school.

According to the statement, as a result of these raids dozens of cars were badly damaged and 8 persons, a minor among them, were taken to hospital.

According to the statement, the leaders of Tbilisi's artillery school have denied that the raiders belonged to school. In the meantime on Monday victims identified one of the school's students.

"Such raids by members of Soviet army units deployed in the so-called disobedient republics give rise to certain conclusions, the press service's statement points out. "Similar raids launched by Soviet servicemen in Lithuania and at the customs posts on the border between Lithuania and Latvia prove that these actions were planned in advance with a view to provoking extensive clashes between the army and civilans."

Gamsakhurdia Blames Military for Incidents

OW2407064091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1800 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In a statement on Tuesday, Georgia's President Zviad Gamsakhurdia blamed the commanding officers of the Transcaucasian military district for the incidents involving the military, which had occurred in Sukhumi on July 20 and in Tbilisi on July 21. The statement is addressed to the district's commanding officer, Colonel General Patrikeyev.

"The Interior Ministry of Georgia reports that the commissioned and warrant officers of a paratrooper and assault battalion stationed in Sukhumi and the cadets of the Tbilisi artillery school have detained and beaten up passers-by, smashed dozens of cars, stormed public buildings and ransacked houses", the statement says. There have been women and children among the people injured.

In both incidents, "the fascist-like hooligans have been deliberately insulting the national honour and dignity of people", the statement goes on.

Georgia's president has in this connection demanded an immediate investigation and punishment of those responsible.

Gumbaridze Named Sochi Second Secretary

LD2207131391 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1200 GMT 22 Jul 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] The former first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia, Gumbaridze, has changed his job. His new post is as second secretary of Sochi City Party Committee of the CPSU.

Appointment Denied

LD2207182591 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Jul 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The other day "Vesti" reported an INTERFAX story about Givi Gumbaridze, former first secretary of the Communist Party of Georgia Central Committee, having been appointed second secretary of Sochi town party committee. Today a similar report was published in PRAVDA. The (IPRINDA), a Georgian news agency, referring to Gumbaridze, has refuted this report. Givi Gumbaridze himself told "Vesti" by telephone that he had no plans for moving to Sochi.

Leading Party Expelled From Congress of Georgia

AU2307071991 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Russian 1430 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] In accordance with the resolution of the National Congress of Georgia, the powers of the Party of National Independence of Georgia are to be terminated as of 29 July. This fact is significant in its own right. Less than a year has passed since the creation of the National Congress of Georgia. Initially it included parties that were later united in electoral blocs: the bloc of the National Democratic Party and the Democratic Party, Democratic Georgia, the Party of National Independence, the National Union, the Democratic faction of the Communist Party, the People's Party and the Association of Invalids, and the League of the Citizens of Georgia. Today the question of expelling from the Congress one of the initiators of its creation that subsequently became one of its leading and main parties is already on the agenda.

Budget Deficit Called 'Extremely Worrying'

AU2407090391 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 19 Jul 91 p 1

[Report by SAKINFORM correspondent L. Gagua on the regular session of the Georgian Government held on 17 July: "In the Government of the Republic of Georgia"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] An extremely urgent question for the republic was presented at the session, namely about the amendment of the revenue and expenditure of the special state budget for the second half of 1991 and its performance. The figures quoted are extremely worrying: During this period, the expenditure of the amended state budget amounted to 10,277.8 million rubles [R] while its deficit came to R4,176.8 million. It is in such an extremely serious situation that the performance of the budget is being viewed. Therefore, ministries, departments, and agencies of the Republic of Georgia and the managers of enterprises, associations, and economic organizations that were formerly under Union jurisdiction are instructed to present to the Ministry of Economy and Finance, alongside the forecast for 1992 and the materials of the draft state budget, a list of unprofitable enterprises so that measures can be implemented by the end of the year to stop them from operating at a loss and, as a last resort, to privatize, lease, or close them down. The allocation of extra funds from the budget is categorically forbidden until the end of 1991. The only exception concerns emergency measures connected with compensation for damage caused by the earthquake.

Ways of eliminating the budget deficit are outlined in the resolution. At the same time, it was stated that the frequent nonfulfillment of plans was caused, along with objective reasons, by the collapse of labor discipline at enterprises. Preoccupied with their own problems, people are forgetting that their salvation lies in their own hands and that the desire for freedom is not enough; it will only be gained through very hard work.

Israel's Shamir Encourages Ties With Georgia

AU2307105091 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 9 Jul 91 p 1

[Telegram "to the President of the Republic of Georgia" from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir dated in Jerusalem on 18 June]

[Text] Dear President Gamsakhurdia!

Allow me to congratulate you on your election, for the second time, to the post of president of the Republic of Georgia. Thank you for your warm letter in which you paid such great attention to the fraternal relations that have existed between our peoples for centuries. I am certain that those 50,000 Jews who arrived in Israel from Georgia will be worthy ambassadors for your country. I repeat that, through them and thanks to the new contacts being established between us, it will become possible to extend economic, commercial, and cultural ties between our countries.

I wish you and all the Georgian people progress and success.

Yours respectfully,
Yitzhaq Shamir

Law Stipulates Punishment for Kidnapping

AU2307170691 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 10 Jul 91 p 1

["Republic of Georgia Law on Increasing Criminal Liability for Kidnapping a Person," issued in Tbilisi on 8 July 1991]

[Text] A dangerous crime has recently become widespread—the kidnapping of persons for the purpose of extorting large amounts of money from the victims and from their families, thereby causing moral and material damage to the person. This has given rise to justified indignation and anger on the part of the public. In order to intensify the struggle against this grave crime, the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia resolves the following:

To introduce the following changes and amendments into the Criminal Code of the Republic of Georgia ratified by the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic law of 30 December 1960 (Proceedings of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Georgia, 1961, Issue 1, Article 10):

Article 133 must be formulated in the following way:

Article 133. Kidnapping or any other unlawful infringement upon the freedom of man.

1. Kidnapping or any other infringement upon human freedom perpetrated for profit or for any other evil reason is punishable by imprisonment for a period of between 10 and 15 years, with or without confiscation of property and with or without eviction for a period of between two and five years.

2. The words "(Article 117)" in the second part of Article 8 prime must be followed by the words "kidnapping of a person (Article 133)."

[Signed] Zviad Gamsakhurdia, president of the Republic of Georgia.
8 July 1991.
Tbilisi.

Armenia

Party Plenum Elects New Second Secretary

PM2107185191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jul 91 Second Edition p 1

[Item from roundup of PRAVDA, TASS, RIA, INTERFAX reports: "At the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] L. Akopyan—leader of the group of Communist parliamentarians—was elected second secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee.

Defense Organs Issue Appeal Against 'Atrocities'

NC2307164191 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1830 GMT 22 Jul 91

["Appeal issued by the the Armenian Republic's Supreme Soviet Commission on Defense and Internal Affairs and the Defense Committee attached to the Council of Ministers to the Armenian Supreme Soviet; the Armenian government; all parties, movements, and public organizations; and the Armenian people;" place and date not given]

[Text] The events of recent weeks are clear proof that the Azerbaijani leadership, with direct assistance from certain forces at the center, is continuing to aggravate tension in Nagorno-Karabakh, Shaumyanovskiy Rayon, and the border region. The armed operations against the Armenian people are continuing; the cases of atrocities, pillage, and abuse committed against the Armenian population are multiplying.

With the assistance of its armed forces and those of the union, the Azerbaijani leadership, taking clear advantage of the political instability and confusion in the country and of the conflict among the union administrative organs, is deliberately and methodically carrying out its plan to forcibly deport the residents of the Armenian villages on its territory in a bid to alter the demographic composition of these areas and solve the Nagorno-Karabakh problem to its satisfaction.

Azerbaijan is making no attempt to conceal its intention of removing all Armenians from Nagorno-Karabakh and nearby Shaumyanovskiy Rayon. Furthermore, a campaign has started in the Azerbaijani press to prepare public opinion to put forward claims on Zangezur [southern Armenia]. At the same time, Azerbaijan is cleverly using the union mass media to foster the idea of Armenian aggression and the concomitant need for an independent Azerbaijani defense policy. Any move by the Armenian population to defend itself is branded a guerrilla operation and harshly suppressed. Lacking any other way to defend itself, the Armenian population in Nagorno-Karabakh is compelled to resist the brigand bands of the Azerbaijani Special Purpose Militia Detachment [OMON] more frequently, thereby upholding its right to live on its native soil. Whenever these brigand bands encounter organized resistance, they fail to achieve their objectives.

The Azerbaijani OMON and the subunits of the 4th Army Division in Gendzha are continuing to attack the Armenian villages of Buzluk, Manashid, Erkech, and Verishen, the residents of which are heroically resisting a foe armed with latest military hardware and weapons and inflicting substantial losses on it.

In fact, Azerbaijan is waging an undeclared war on the Armenian people. Aggressive operations are being conducted, and the zone of conflict is continually expanding; the areas where there are large concentrations of Armenians are gradually being drawn into the (?armed) clashes and are being subjected to atrocious and arbitrary operations.

A failure to recognize the need to muster all our forces and mobilize all our resources to assist our compatriots in Nagorno-Karabakh under these conditions and to deal a resolute counterstrike against aggression would have grave consequences for our entire people.

We accept that the search for a political solution to the conflict should be given priority and we affirm our readiness to implement the decision of the Armenian Supreme Soviet on the start of the negotiations with Azerbaijan and the center. Nevertheless, every day that is lost as we vainly await the results of such negotiations has been, is being, and will be used by the Azerbaijani leadership to continue deporting Armenians and resettling the abandoned villages with Azerbaijanis.

Realizing our responsibility to the Armenian people and future generations and aware that there can be no justification for our remaining a mere passive bystander, we make the following appeal to the republic's leadership, to all our compatriots, and to all the parties, movements, and public organizations:

Armenia and the Armenian people are again at a critical crossroads in their centuries-long history. Our compatriots are being murdered with impunity before our very eyes; they are being uprooted them from their native soil and their honor and dignity is being trampled on. The inviolability of Armenia as an independent and sovereign state is in jeopardy. It is the duty of all of us to stand up in defense of Nagorno-Karabakh's people, who are struggling to survive.

We call on everyone to muster all our forces to organize comprehensive and effective assistance to our compatriots. We have no right to delay. We are convinced that our people have the necessary ability and the republic's leadership has the necessary resolve and consistency to stop Nagorno-Karabakh from sharing the fate of Nakhichevan.

[Signed] The Armenian Republic Supreme Soviet Commission on Defense and Internal Affairs and the Defense Committee attached to the Council of Ministers

Officials Brief Media on Border Situation

NC2407075191 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Ashot Manucharyan, the republic's acting interior minister, gave a briefing yesterday at the Armenian Council of Ministers. He specifically noted that the

situation in the Armenian-inhabited areas of Shaumyanovskiy Rayon in Azerbaijan is very grave, although there were no clashes yesterday.

Regarding the border zone between Armenia and Azerbaijan, information has been received from the Azerbaijani side that there has been an attack in which people were killed and wounded and a large amount of animals driven into Armenia. Ashot Manucharyan said that the Armenian Interior Ministry confirms this incident, but in all cases one thing should be kept in mind: No provocative operations are taking place and the situation is calm in those sections of the border where there is no massing of Azerbaijani OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] troops. For example: The situation is calm in our northern regions, Krasnoselskiy Rayon and Vaykskiy Rayon.

Ashot Manucharyan added that Kapanskiy Rayon is periodically shelled by Soviet 4th Army subunits stationed in Azerbaijan. We have appealed to the commanders of the 7th Army stationed in Armenia. They promised that heavy military hardware will be deployed in Kapanskiy Rayon and that if there is fire from the Azerbaijani side, such an attack will be crushed with this heavy hardware.

The regular briefing of the Armenian Republic's Interior Ministry will take place today.

[Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian at 0600 GMT on 24 July reports "from the review of HAYASTANI HANRAPETUTYUN" that "Davit Vardanyan, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet Commission on Foreign Relations, on 23 July briefed reporters at the Armenian Council of Ministers on the current situation." He said that "the operational situation in the republic's border zones is calm, and a trend towards stability is discernible. Minor incidents have taken place in Tavushskiy Rayon. The situation in Shaumyanovskiy remains tense, but no active military operations have been conducted."]

More Reporting on 18-19 Jul Border Incursion

NC2307095491 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 22 Jul 91

[Text] Yerevan, 22 Jul (ARMENPRES)—A group of 50 to 60 people dressed in black uniforms infiltrated three kms into Vardenisskiy Rayon on 18 July. They advanced towards the summer pastures of Azat and Norapat villages, opening sporadic fire on the Armenian villagers reaping grass.

The Armenian militia detail came to the assistance of the villagers and through loudspeakers demanded the firing cease. The invaders responded with automatic fire. The fire was returned and the invaders were repulsed and forced to retreat into their own territory.

I.A. Dzhafarov, a member of the Azerbaijani Special Purpose Militia Detachment, was apprehended at the site of the incident. Born in 1964, he is a resident of Otakhlu village in Kelbadzharskiy Rayon. His gun was confiscated. He was trying to steal 60 cattle.

At 1930 an unmarked helicopter took off from the Azerbaijani SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] and flew over the gold mine of Sotk village in Vardenisskiy. It then opened fire on the Armenian militia detail from an height of 100 to 150 meters. The fire was returned and the helicopter took cover in Azerbaijan's Kelbadzharskiy Rayon.

Artillery and automatic fire was opened between 0200-0400 on 19 July from Dzhidzhimli village in Kubatlinskiy Rayon and Hadzhilar village in Lachinskiy Rayon of the Azerbaijan SSR on the Kornidzor, Teg, Khoznavar, and Vagatur villages in Gorisskiy Rayon and on the farms located in the summer pastures of lake Sev. There were no casualties. Some houses were damaged in Kornidzor village.

[ARMENPRES at 1218 GMT on 22 July reports that Vazgen Sargisyan, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet Commission on Defense and Internal Affairs, in a news conference at the Armenian Council of Ministers said that the incursion "by one of the units of the Soviet Army stationed in Azerbaijan" was undertaken "probably to carry out provocative operations" in Armenia. He said "one serviceman was injured and another detained." He added: "One thing is certain, such operations aim at exacerbating the situation on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border."]

Azerbaijan

'Militants' Seal Off Azerbaijan Community

OW2407045391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At Tuesday's USSR Interior Ministry briefing Colonel Vladimir Podolin, of the Interior Ministry troops, said that according to the reports that had arrived by this morning, the Shaumyanovsk community, of the Geranboysk district of Azerbaijan was sealed off by Armenian militants. An estimated 1,000 militants armed with submachine guns, machine guns and grenade launchers are in the area. Colonel Podolin said the position of the Interior troop unit in the community was rather risky. He said there were signs of preparations for taking Interior Ministry troops hostage.

Colonel Podolin said that Interior Ministry troops in Nagorno-Karabakh and the adjoining districts of Azerbaijan totalled four thousand men.

Colonel Podolin said Interior Ministry troops avoided participation in passport checks carried out by the Interior Ministry of Azerbaijan.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Says Game Being Played With Treaty

LD2307182691 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1646 GMT 23 Jul 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The main event today is the new meeting at Novo-Ogarevo between the USSR president and the leaders of the nine republics intending to sign the Union treaty.

[Correspondent Sergey Dorenko] Marshal Yazov himself has come to watch the civilians at work. Bessmertnykh and Shcherbakov from the Union Cabinet are also here. Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman Kravchuk has not come—he has sent his deputy to the session. The final work on the draft Union treaty is in progress.

[Begin recording] [Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev] Some sort of games are being played again, all the same. This time we received three versions [of draft treaty]. We did not know which one to work on. We had the position of the Supreme Soviet and that of the Constitutional Supervision Committee. Then Boldin of the presidential apparatus sent them out. We rejected all that. Then we started working, and on 17 June the draft was distributed for discussion in the republic's parliaments. We are proceeding according to the text, the draft, which was agreed at that time. [end recording] [Video shows Yazov standing outside building; Nazarbayev talking to newsmen; Gorbachev chairing meeting inside]

More on Kazakh Association's Joint Venture

PM2407111991 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 21 Jul 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Report by L. Laptev]

[Text] [Announcer] The creation of our country's first free economic zone and the involvement of foreign capital and progressive technologies in a joint venture with a foreign firm can be described as a world economic breakthrough.

[Laptev] Probably for the first time in its long history, Ust-Kamenogorsk finds itself at the focus of interest of two foreign companies with a worldwide reputation—the Japanese Chori company and the American U.G. Enterprises. To be specific, they have shown interest in the "Gemma" science and production association. It engages in the processing of nonferrous metallurgy waste which contains rare earth elements, and Siberian deer breeding—which is one of the oblast's main foreign currency earners. Unfortunately, at present it is doing so only at the raw material production level.

This prompted the "Gemma" association to look around for solid partners. The objective of the talks which have been held is the establishment in East Kazakhstan of a production facility fitted with the latest technological equipment for the production of world-standard output from available raw materials.

[A.I. Rogachev, chairman of organizational committee setting up East Kazakhstan free economic zone] Our first contacts and experience of working with the firm indicate that we have plenty to copy from them. So we agreed to set up a joint venture.

[I.N. Tutevol, chairman of oblast soviet] Fairly recently the Kazakh Supreme Soviet decided to give our oblast the status of a free economic zone. We are already taking practical steps. We have big plans. A great deal still needs to be studied, but we agree to base our relations on mutually beneficial terms.

[Laptev] The future partners have already demonstrated their reliable potential in action. All these various goods that you see here have been produced for the most part by these firms' joint ventures of various types. The talks that took place resulted in the signing of a contract on a joint venture based on "Gemma."

International Drugs Seminar Opens in Kazakhstan

LD1607151891 Moscow TASS in English 0752 GMT 16 Jul 91

[By Vasiliy Danshin]

[Text] Alma-Ata July 16 TASS—Participants in an international seminar on illegal narcotics production, which opened in Kazakhstan today, began their work with a fly-over of the Chuiskaya Valley.

A helicopter tour is the best way to get a clear picture of methods used to combat illegal drug cultivation, organisers said.

The forum, attended by law-enforcement officials and drug experts from Austria, Afghanistan, Spain, Cyprus, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, Peru, the United States, the Soviet Union, France and Germany, will discuss ways to combat drug production and trafficking. Experts were interested to learn more about the Soviet "flame" programme to spot illegal drug plantations from space.

Kyrgyzstan

Party in Kyrgyzstan Formulates Program

OW2407092891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1230 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In Bishkek, there has been a conference by the democratic party "Erkin Kyrgyzstan" (Freedom of Kyrgyzstan). Documents for the party's official registration were prepared.

The chairman of the new party Omurbek Tekebayev has told IF [INTERFAX]: "Our is a parliamentary party and it is opposed to the Communist party of kyrgyzstan. We want a democratic state ruled by law in our republic based on a multi-party system. We want a civil society, where human rights will have priority over the state. Our party wants to prevent monopoly in any sphere of life and seeks the equality of all types of property and the freedom of individual initiative and enterprize. We believe that free businessmen must become the driving force that would put an end to the political and economic crisis. Our party is oriented towards the emerging middle class and national bourgeoisie, and we will promote its growth and better position in society in every possible way. Our party must be a small party of the elite."

Kyrgyz Law on Enterprises

WA914A0863A

For this law published in the 10 April 1991 SLOVO KYRGYZSTANA, see the FBIS Report Soviet Union: Republic Affairs, FBIS-USR-91-014, dated 16 July 1991, pp 20-29.

Kyrgyz Enterprise, Organization Taxes Law

WA914A0870A

For this law published in the 2 April 1991 SLOVO KYRGYZSTANA, see the FBIS Report Soviet Union: Republic Affairs, FBIS-USR-91-014, dated 16 July 1991, pp 29-44.

Tajikistan

Operation Against Tajik Poppy Fields Continues

PM2407102991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jul 91 First Edition p 2

[RIA report: "Operation 'Poppy' Continues"]

[Text] Dushanbe—Tajikistans's militia are continuing operation "Poppy." Starting in April, more than 150 groups have been used to cut down opium poppy plots in the foothills. A total of 2,500 staffers of the Tajikistan MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs], the USSR MVD Main Criminal Investigation Administration interregional department for combating the narcotics trade, and the Tajikistan Special Purpose Militia Detachment have been taking part in the operations. "Cutting down poppy fields" does not come under the criminal investigation staffers' and other MVD services' direct responsibilities. Nevertheless by using this primitive method of manual mowing, they are destroying 90 percent of the first poppy crop. Over the past four months 603 plots have been destroyed—a little more than half those discovered. Last year 222 were discovered and destroyed. One gram of opium costs 200 rubles here. A plot occupying 0.3 hectares of irrigated land yields 1.5 kg of opium.

As Colonel Zairov, chief of the Tajikistan MVD Criminal Investigation Administration, told your RIA correspondent, 70 percent of all narcotics in the republic (raw materials and finished product) are destroyed in the fields or confiscated from wholesalers in the republic. In his opinion, the area of land sown to poppies will increase sharply next year.

Tajik Law on Denationalization

914A0565A

For this law published in the 6 March 1991 KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA, see the JPRS Report Soviet Union: Economic Affairs, JPRS-UEA-91-018, dated 15 April 1991, pages 16-18.

Tajik Law on Local Self-Government

WA914A0663A

For this law published in the 9 and 10 April 1991 KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA, see the JPRS Report Soviet Union: Economic Affairs, JPRS-UEA-91-025, dated 20 May 1991, pages 10-40.

Tajik Law on Property

WA914A0690A

For this law published in the 26 December 1990 KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA, see the JPRS Report Soviet Union: Economic Affairs, JPRS-UEA-91-025, dated 20 May 1991, pages 40-47.

Uzbekistan

International Union Created in Uzbekistan

LD2307113591 Moscow TASS in English 1011 GMT 23 Jul 91

[By correspondent Tursunbay Batyrbekov]

[Text] Tashkent 23 July TASS—The new international union "El" was officially registered in Uzbekistan, one of the Soviet Asian republics. Its purpose is to develope cultural and economic cooperation between the Soviet Uzbeks and Uzbeks living abroad.

At the moment, there are over three million Uzbeks residing in Afghanistan, China, the U.S., Turkey, Syria, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia.

The founders of the new organisation are foreign Uzbek businessmen, who participated in an international meeting of Soviet and foreign business circles held recently in Tashkent.

The creation of the union, initiated by the foreign citizens, became possible after a law on public organizations was adopted in the republic.

"El" focuses on the promotion of foreign investments in Uzbekistan, launching of new joint ventures and charity

programmes in the republic. Another new organization in Uzbekisan, "Vatan" Society ("Motherland"), takes care of the development of cultural connections with Uzbeks nationality abroad.

Radio Liberty Correspondent Arrested in Tashkent

LD2307211491 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 23 Jul 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Journalists are still being arrested in our country. The first interrogation of Radio Liberty correspondent (Usmanov) has taken place in Tashkent. He was arrested on the curious charge of inadequate coverage of the events taking place in the republic.

Karimov Says Treaty Talks 'Proceeding in Circles'

LD2307170691 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] A meeting of leaders of the plenipotentiary republican delegations for completing work on the draft new Union treaty is underway in Novo-Ogarevo. Our special correspondent Valeriy Kiosa has the details:

A short time ago there was a break in the meeting, during which journalist could interview its participants. Kazakhstan president Nursultan Nazarbayev said that participants had managed to process eight of the 23 articles of the draft new Union treaty. The issue of protecting the rights of autonomous republics which had declared their sovereignty was one of the main problems. In Nursultan Nazarbayev's view, there has been progress in solving this problem, a formula of concord has been found, and only some technicalities remain outstanding.

Uzbekistan President Karimov noted, however, that the meeting is proceeding in circles, as he put it, that is, participants once again return to the decisions that seemed to have already been found. In his view, if work continues in the same way, the elaboration of the new draft Union treaty may require more time.

The Novo-Ogarevo meeting continues.